

**Tully Blanchard Threatens Robert Gibson:
"THE TEENYBOPPERS WON'T CHEER YOU AFTER I MANGLE YOUR FACE!"**

\$1.75 / \$2.25 Canada

47817 Sept. 1986

SPORTS REVIEW

Wrestling

**THE BRITISH BULLDOGS-
LIVING ON THE
EDGE OF
DISASTER!**

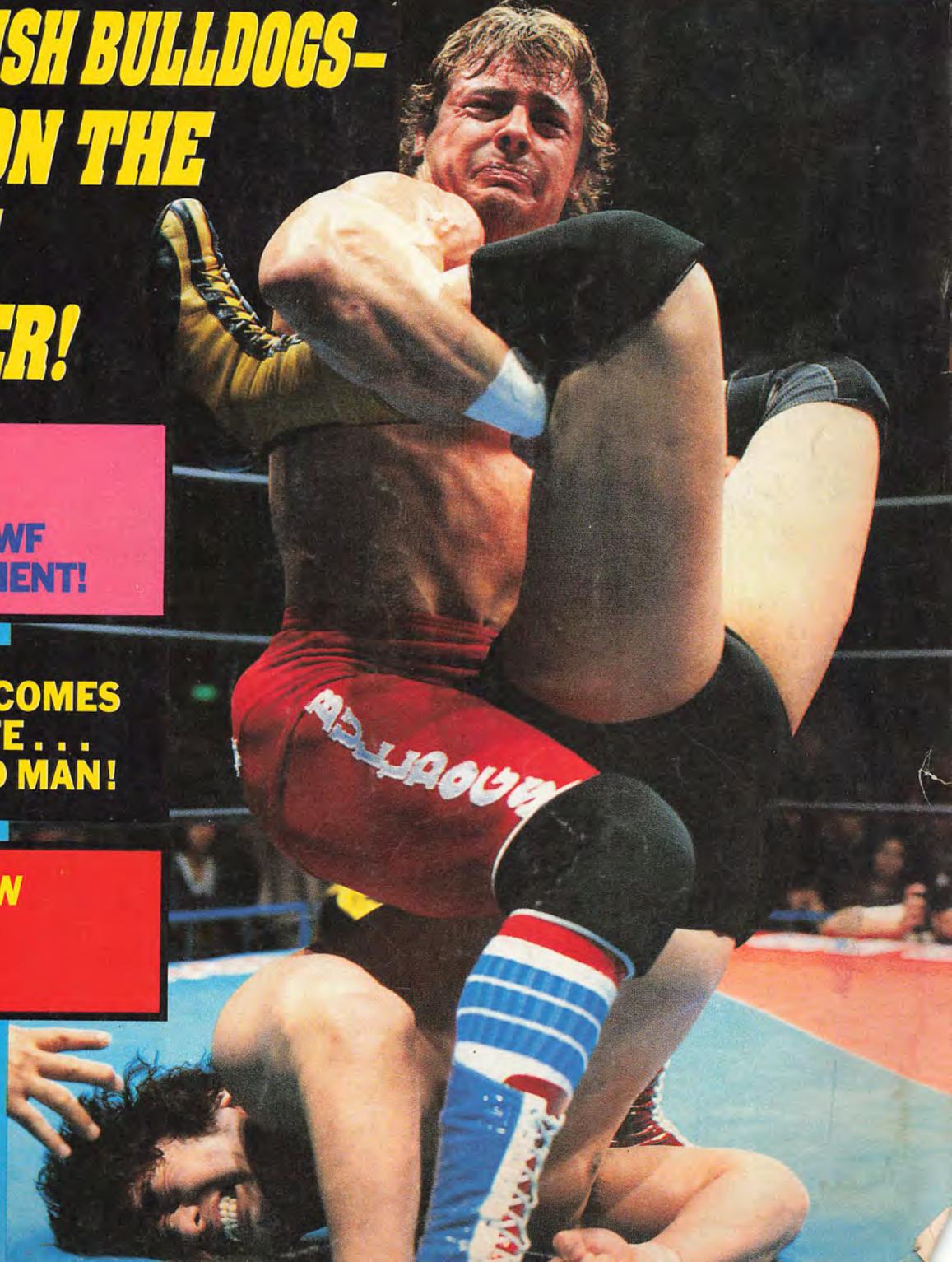
**SENSATIONAL
COVERAGE
OF THE FIRST UWF
TITLE TOURNAMENT!**

**LEX LUGAR BECOMES
A FAN FAVORITE . . .
AND A MARKED MAN!**

**SPORTS REVIEW
INTERVIEW:
BILL DUNDEE**



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If you had to describe the MALIN M-15 in just one word, that word would have to be...*big!* Each MALIN M-15 is a whopping 12 inches long—*a foot in length!*—yet so perfectly balanced it cuts and thrusts like an extension of your own hand. Heft this beauty just once; you'll never want to put it down!

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But that's not all! In the pommel of each MALIN M-15 is a precision ZF-360 Liquid Damped Compass. And when you unscrew the compass—there is an astonishing Survival Kit complete with packet of waterproof wrapped matches, half-a-dozen fishing hooks, sinkers, nylon test fishing line, sewing needle kit—even an 18-inch cable saw actually capable of cutting down a small tree. No wonder this is the best-selling

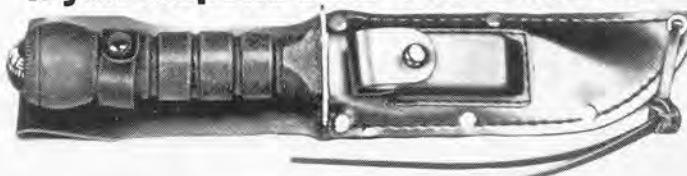
*Compass
Unscrews
To Reveal
Survival Kit*

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These Famous Nationally Advertised MALIN M-15 SURVIVAL KNIVES will not be sold at this price by the company in any store. There is a limit of two (2) per address at this price, but if your request is made early enough (before Nov. 17) you may order up to five. Each knife is covered by the company's unconditional one-year money-back guarantee.

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That's what so many men are saying after using *ShapeUp*, the marvelous, new compound, especially formulated by nutritionists, sports dietitians and biochemists for the sole purpose of helping men to more healthful, sturdier and better developed bodies.

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Women are not excited by men who are skeletons. They like men of form and substance. They like men who look good in their clothes and out. They like men who look like men. If you are one of those who knows this and have been trying in vain to do something about it, this is your lucky day. Your search is ended. Your body is about to embark on a trip to its ideal shape and form. *ShapeUp* is here to shape you up . . . and we mean it sincerely. You are about to gain weight . . . and not just flab, but the right amount in the right places. You'll see!

SKINNY ISN'T ATTRACTIVE

If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthful. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

GAIN STAMINA AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOO.

Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

GAIN WEIGHT! GAIN WOMEN!

*If you think that's just a catchy slogan, we hope you will do yourself a favor. Count how many skinny men you see in movies, or on TV or anywhere . . . with pretty women. Notice whom they pick for clothing models. See the announcers, the M.C.'s, the newsmen. How many men in the public eye, in politics, in leadership roles in business are underweight? Not even astronauts are skinny guys. If you want to experience a change in your attitude, your business progress, your lifestyle, see what 5, 10, 15 pounds can do for you. See how it adds to your personal esteem, your confidence and, best of all, your well-being. Your day will come . . . and thank your lucky stars, it's within sight with *ShapeUp* working for you.*

LOOK BETTER AND FEEL BETTER WHILE YOU GAIN

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Send me the
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Here's a low-cost way!**

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Wrestling

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Cover photos:

Bulldogs by David Fitzgerald

Blanchard vs. Gibson by Floyd See

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SHOW THE WORLD YOU'RE A TRUE WRESTLING FAN!

NOW AVAILABLE

A FULL LINE OF TOP-QUALITY
MERCANDISE FROM THE LARGEST-
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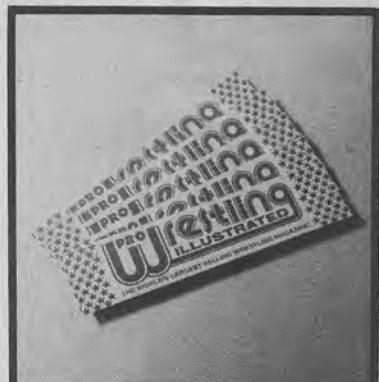
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N.Y. 11571

THEY'LL MEET TULLY THERE

So Tully Blanchard wants to knock Magnum T.A.'s fans and wrestling fans in general ("Tully Blanchard: 'Magnum T.A. And His Fans Can Go To Hell,'" July 1986). It's only typical of the spoiled, immature, infantile attitude he has. He couldn't spell "work" if you gave him the W, O, and R.

Tully once said he'd retire if he couldn't run The Sheepherders from Texas, but it was he who feigned retirement and fled east from his own home state. No wonder Jon Boyd called him the "Yellow Rose of Texas."

It's great that America has a great role model and true work ethic example in T.A. He doesn't need to show off material possessions to cover up insecurities, as Blanchard does. Tully's false bravado disappears when his "horse manure" friends aren't around to help him. If he wants to see slime, let him look in the mirror. T.A. will

give this spoiled, disrespectful parasite the whipping he should have had long ago in the principal's office.

JIM GENTRY

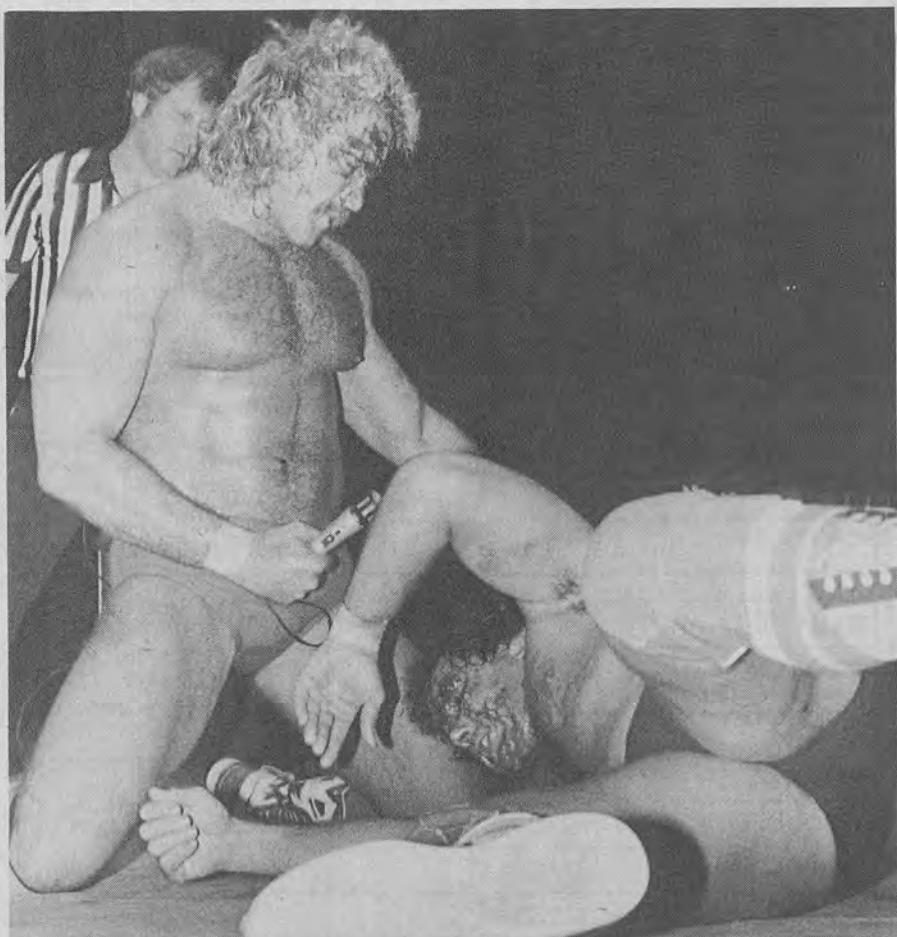
Temple, TX

NICE WORDS FOR RICK RUDE

In the July 1986 edition of *Sports Review Wrestling*, you asked the fans whether they agreed with the World Class' decision to withdraw from the NWA ("Inquiring Reporter"). Well, I wish you had asked me.

After seeing the Texas Stadium match between World Class champion Rick Rude and Bruiser Brody on cable-TV, I don't see how anybody can disagree with this decision. This match was one of the greatest I've ever seen, mostly because of the possibility that the title could change hands on a disqualification. I hate Rick Rude, and feel he is a horrible rulebreaker, but I don't think I've ever seen him wrestle as well as he did that day.

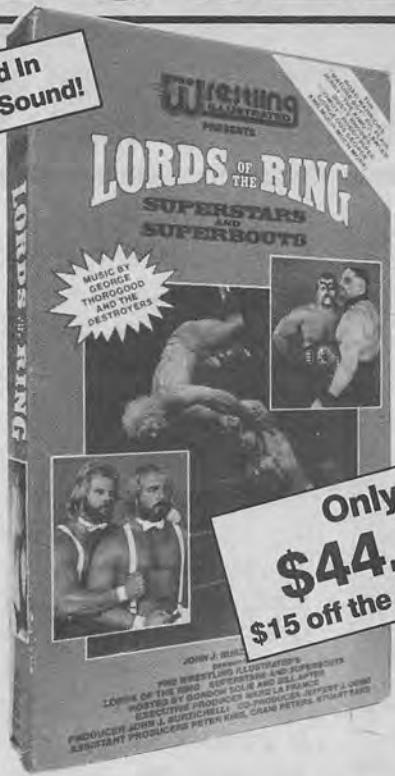
(Continued on page 47)



No, Magnum T.A. is not trying to interview Tully Blanchard. The two are involved in an ugly feud in which the use of foreign objects is not unusual. Reader Jim Gentry has little doubt who the better man is.

DOUBLE FEATURE

Recorded In
Full Stereo Sound!



Pro Wrestling Illustrated's **LORDS OF THE RING**

The first wrestling videotape ever is a power-packed hour of action and excitement featuring highlights from some of the most memorable matches and star-studded cards ever held.

Some Of The Historic Matches You Will See:

- Kerry Von Erich wins the NWA title from Ric Flair
- Ric Flair's victory over Kerry in their Japanese rematch
- Roddy Piper vs. Greg Valentine in a dog-collar match
- Ric Flair regains the NWA title from Harley Race in a bloody cage match at "Starrcade '83"
- The Road Warriors vs. The Fabulous Ones
- The Von Erichs vs. The Freebirds
- Junkyard Dog vs. The Missing Link
- Plus: A Tribute To David Von Erich; Comedian Andy Kaufman's match against Jerry Lawler; George Thorogood's hard-rocking MTV video hit "Willie And The Hand Jive"
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Suggested List Price: \$59.95

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The latest from the PWI video library is an hour of action from "The Great American Bash"—one of 1985's best cards. More than 30,000 people filled Charlotte Stadium to witness an evening of super wrestling excitement. Order the tape today and reserve your ringside seat for the hottest ticket in wrestling.

The Card At "The Great American Bash":

- Main Event: Ric Flair vs. Nikita Koloff for the NWA World title
- The Road Warriors vs. Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev
- Dusty Rhodes vs. Tully Blanchard (cage match)
- Magnum T.A. vs. Kamala
- Jimmy Valiant vs. Paul Jones
- Ole & Arn Anderson vs. Buzz Sawyer & Dick Slater
- Buddy Landell vs. Ron Bass
- Plus an outrageous six-man tag team match

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THE TATTER

DENTON, TX: The word tragedy has become synonymous with the Von Erich family. In fact, it seems as if once every year, some horrible event occurs which tests the bind of this great wrestling clan. It was Kevin Von Erich who wrote in the February 1986 issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, "tragedy has made my family stronger."

The first such tragedy occurred over 20 years ago when the oldest Von Erich brother, Jack, electrocuted himself. More recently, in 1984, the world mourned the death of David Von Erich. Last year, millions prayed as Mike Von Erich fought a battle with toxic shock syndrome, and won. Now, it's Kerry, whose situation actually is much better than it



KERRY VON ERICH

might have been. At press time, Kerry was recuperating in Baylor University Medical Center with a dislocated hip socket and a broken right ankle and foot. Sources speculate that he could be out several months to a year.

Kerry, the number two contender to the World Class title and one of the most popular wrestlers in the country, suffered the injuries while riding his motorcycle just outside his hometown of Denton. Although details are sketchy at this point, Kerry apparently was trying to pass a car. At the same time, a police car coming from the opposite direction made a left turn. Kerry tried to avoid a crash but ended up pinning his bike against the police car.

No member of the Von Erich family was available for comment. However, our sources inform us that Kerry's injuries are not life threatening and that he should be able to return to the ring after a healing and rehabilitation period. Tragedy has been averted for now, but one has to wonder whether there is a black cloud hanging over the Von Erich family.

—Andrew Ray

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KANSAS CITY, MO: The United States belt could fall into the hands of a Russian as a result of a series of incidents involving champion Magnum T.A., number one contender Nikita Koloff, and NWA President

(Continued on page 58)

Never before have so many respected wrestling journalists been involved in so important a venture. The best correspondents from all over the world have been enlisted to report on the news behind the news. Each month, our team of reporters will bring you the most up-to-date news available from all corners of the globe

BE TOUGH!

I MEAN REALLY *TOUGH!*

My method of DYNAMIC-TENSION gives you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a REAL man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.

HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn you, too, into a marvellous physical specimen . . . a REAL man from head to toe . . . a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

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So sure am I of how fast "Dynamic-Tension" works that I make this offer to you. Try my course for 7 days and in even that short period of time you will have results that not only you can feel, but your friends will notice, or it costs you nothing.

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- MORE WEIGHT

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WIN THIS
VALUABLE
TROPHY



"WHAM! NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY!"

"OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!"



From time to time, the editors of this magazine find it necessary to condemn those in wrestling who would subvert the basic principles of decency, integrity, and honesty. Without such truths, our sport will die

RARELY HAS ONE subject caused such an uproar. In the long and storied history of *Sports Review Wrestling*, we, the editors, have received mail from enraged readers on a variety of subjects, but never in such volume.

"Look at this," cried Associate Editor Craig Peters. "Fifty more letters on the Jimmy Jack Funk thing. By my count, that makes over 200 in the last two weeks and we haven't even gotten the afternoon mail yet."

"Boy, these fans are mad," exclaimed new Assistant Editor Dave Rosenbaum. "Look at this one. 'Does Vince McMahon actually believe wrestling fans are stupid, and blind as well? The WWF has become a three-ring circus and the head clown is Vince McMahon. Jesse Barr is Jesse Barr, not Jimmy Jack Funk!' The funny thing is, they're not half as mad at Barr, or Funk, as they are at McMahon and his cronies."

"That's because the fans are so used to McMahon treating them like children that they automatically take everything out on Vince," said Managing Editor Stu Saks. "You really can't blame them. The WWF acts as if it's the only place where wrestling exists, but the fans know otherwise."

Sports Review Wrestling accuses Vince McMahon, the WWF, Dory

Funk, Terry Funk and Jesse Barr of blatantly lying about the true identity of Jimmy Jack Funk. The WWF could not possibly have been so ignorant of Jimmy Jack Funk's true identity. We condemn the Funks and Barr for contriving an angle that could not have possibly worked. Surprise! The fans are much smarter than you thought.



His name is Jimmy Jack Funk . . . but that heart tattoo on his left arm looks suspiciously familiar!

In fact, the people have spoken in vast numbers. A sampling:

From Jason Williams of Largo, Florida: "Look at the tattoo on his left arm, look at his weight and hairstyle, and listen to his voice. I'm sure you will agree with me that Jesse Barr is Jimmy Jack Funk."

From Stephen Caruso of Columbia, Maryland: "Only an idiot couldn't tell that Jimmy Jack Funk wasn't really Barr. According to McMahon, Jimmy Jack was locked in the bunkhouse on

the Double-Cross Ranch because he was too rough . . . What a joke! Once again, the WWF has insulted our intelligence. This is just the latest slap in the face from the WWF."

And from Phylis Kerns of Baltimore: "The worst part is that Vince wants the fans to believe a wrestler like Jesse Barr can come into the WWF and he doesn't 'know' who he is!"

The irony of the situation is that the WWF is its own victim. Years ago, prior to the growth of cable-television, there were set regions for each federation and wrestling fans knew little about areas outside their own. The WWF broke the territorial boundaries and other federations followed suit. The growth of cable-television and superstations has also helped educate the fans about previously foreign areas. With this in mind, the WWF should have known it was making a big mistake. People in New York are now familiar with Florida wrestling.

Treat a person with respect and he'll respect you back. Treat a person like an idiot and he'll feel the same way about you. Perhaps this is the reason behind the WWF's slumping attendance. The fans have had enough, and who can blame them? If the WWF wants to reverse the trend, they'll have to stick to wrestling and treat the fans with a little more dignity.

Of course, Dory Funk and Jesse Barr are equally to blame. Are we really to believe that Jimmy Jack Funk was locked up in a bunkhouse on the Double-Cross Ranch because he was too rough? If the Funks had told the truth about Jesse Barr, would they really have been hurt at the box office?

Naturally, McMahon, Gorilla Monsoon, Gene Okerlund, and the rest of

(Continued on page 52)

THE WRESTLING MONTHLY

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the entire wrestling scene is second to none. Many consider SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING the most exciting wrestling magazine on the market today. And remember, subscribers NEVER miss a single issue. Plus the convenience of home delivery. PLUS the excitement that only SPORTS REVIEW WRESTLING brings to you issue after thrilling issue. Fill out the coupon today. You won't be sorry.

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The Inquiring Reporter

No one knows wrestling better than the fans.

Because of this, we're now

giving these experts a forum for their views month, we'll ask a controversial question answer—no matter what those answers might be!

and opinions. Each and have the fans

THE QUESTION:

"Who is your favorite or least favorite wrestling announcer on TV and why?"

THE ANSWERS:

Michael Jacobs, Wilmington, DE:

"When you get right down to it, there are lots of imitators but only one original. The man I'm speaking about is Gordon Solie, the greatest sportscaster of all time—not just wrestling, but all sports. He's about the only announcer left in the sport who doesn't let his personal opinions get in the way of his job. Solie still calls 'em the way he sees 'em, and he doesn't take the fans for total idiots. The funny thing is, the older he gets, the better he gets, and when you start comparing him to all those other clowns, Gordon Solie is simply a living legend."

Jeff Harrison, St. Louis, MO: "If you ask me, they're all bad. Solie's an old man. Lance Russell dresses like a clown. I have to turn down the color every time he comes on the air. Tony Schiavone is a wimp. I'll never figure out how he got involved with wrestling. Bill Mercer from World Class must be blind. I think some of Gino Hernandez's liquid caught him in the eye. As for the WWF announcers, none of them know what they're talk-



ing about. Okerlund is awful, but Monsoon is the biggest waste of time. If he says 'literally' one more time, I'm literally going to bust his face."

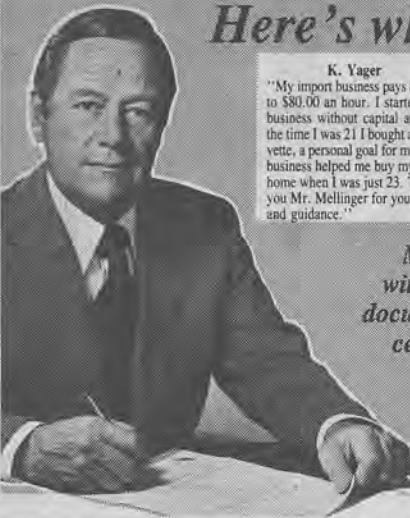
Dana McBaine, Long Beach, NY: "Actually, my favorite and least favorite announcers come from the same area. The best is definitely Jesse Ventu-

Gordon Solie, "The Walter Cronkite of Professional Wrestling," is widely acknowledged as the best wrestling announcer in the country. He currently broadcasts for the Florida and Continental areas.

ra. I know that he's not completely unbiased, but let's face it, the man is funny as hell. He's really the only

(Continued on page 56)

Here's what I did for these ambitious men and women-



K. Yager

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to retirees in
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TOP WRESTLE YOUR QUESTION

Do you have a question you want answered by 10 of wrestling's top stars? Each month, *Sports Review*

Wrestling will publish a fan's "Question of the Month," which will be answered by the sport's top superstars. If you have a question you would like to see answered, send it to:

ASK THE STARS
Sports Review Wrestling
Box 48
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

"Besides yourself, who is your favorite wrestler?"

**Submitted by:
Seth Kushner,
Brooklyn, NY**



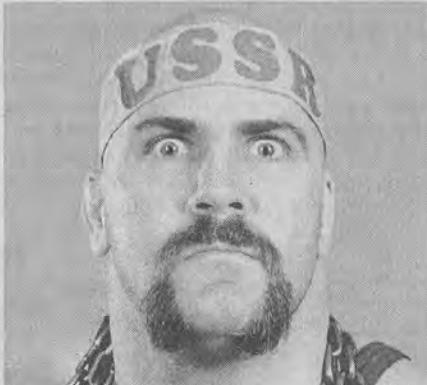
ADRIAN STREET

"Oh my, that's an easy one. I'll give you a clue. He has the prettiest curly hair and the most wonderful big round eyes. Every time I see him in the ring with the sweat pouring over his incredible muscles, the hair stands up on the back of my neck. Give up? Well, of course, sillies, it's Brad Armstrong, but you already knew that! My heart beats faster thinking about him. Ooh! There he comes, and I haven't even fixed my makeup."



RIC FLAIR

"And yet another idiotic question. You guys seem to come up with a different one every month. It just goes to prove what I've been saying all along. The fans are brainless and they're not worthy of my greatness. Just think about the question. For me to be the World champion, I have to be my own man and not idolize anybody else. So to answer this insipid inquiry, besides myself, my favorite wrestler is myself."



NIKITA KOLOFF

"You stupid Americans always ask the obvious question. Back in my homeland, I am revered by millions of comrades. Last month, they have parade in my honor. It was very great moment for me and I can only thank my uncle for this. Ivan Koloff is greatest man to ever rule wrestling. He is my favorite wrestler. I can only copy what he has taught me and try to carry on his name. Someday, Americans will understand his greatness and make statue in his honor. Replace statue of bearded president who killed his own people."



TULLY BLANCHARD

"Dusty Rhodes is my favorite. When I see that 500-pound tub of blubber shaking his body around the ring, I wanna be just like him. The way I figure it, if I sit around all day eating and watching television, I can get the Dusty Rhodes physique. Magnum T.A. Yeah, I like him too. Just the kind of girl you'd want to bring home to mother. Seriously? I am being serious. Dusty Rhodes and Magnum T.A. They make wrestling fun and easy."

WRESTLERS ANSWER OF THE MONTH



STEVE SIMPSON

"My favorite wrestler is definitely Lance Von Erich. If it wasn't for Lance, I wouldn't be where I am today. Also, I think he's an outstanding scientific wrestler. He has tremendous ability and keeps himself in great shape. You know, usually after I wrestle I head back to the dressing room and shower up, but when Lance is wrestling, I always stick around. He's definitely one of the most exciting athletes in the sport."



HACKSAW DUGGAN

"I'm not sure what you really mean by favorite, but if you want to know which wrestler I enjoy watching the most, it would have to be Bruiser Brody. Now, I know that the guy doesn't even wrestle in the UWF, but that's part of the reason. Brody is a tough, no nonsense guy who knows that wrestling is a man's sport. When he gets into the ring, you know that somebody's going to get hurt. He's exciting, and when I just want to watch some good old-fashioned wrestling, he's the guy I want to see."



NORD THE BARBARIAN

"Aside from my mentor, Bruiser Brody, I'd say Stan Hansen and Abdullah the Butcher. I realize that you only asked for one favorite, but I make the rules in this game. Hansen, because of the way he has defended his AWA title and also because he's one of the few people around who realizes the threat Sgt. Slaughter poses to wrestling. As for Abdullah, many people think that he's a mindless man who goes crazy in the ring. Not true. Abdullah the Butcher is one of the greatest ring tacticians I have ever seen."



NICK BOCKWINKEL

"Well, your eminence has never before had a favorite wrestler, but all that has changed. You see, there's this evil slime named Larry Zbyszko whose simple presence is making the world undesirable for habitation. Therefore, any sole who hates Zbyszko as much as I do is a friend of mine and Sgt. Slaughter fits these prescribed guidelines. Mr. Slaughter has proven himself to be a decent human being, a great wrestler and, for the time being, a personal favorite."



ROBERT GIBSON

"Well, I think I'd get into a bit of trouble if I didn't say it was Ricky Morton, but it really is. I've always admired Ricky's determination, drive and wrestling skill and that was one of the reasons why I wanted to team up with him. Not only that, but I think he's showing everybody what kind of wrestler he is in these matches with Flair. Ricky has proven that he's not just a tag team wrestler and can go up against the best."



BILLY JACK HAYNES

"Somebody told me the other day that Andre the Giant could be in Japan one night, New York the next night, Chicago the day after that, and back in Japan another day later. Sounds like my kind of guy. I've always felt that there's a lot of this world to see and not much time to do it. The trick is not to stay in one place for too long and Andre seems to agree with that, although he's been in the WWF for ages. Still, I can go for a schedule like that."

BACK ISSUES OF



THE Wrestler

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December 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

January 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Wrestling II, Rhodes.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.

July 1976/Stories include: Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.

November 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.

December 1976/Stories include: Von Erich, Mulligan, Brody, Funk.

January 1977/Stories include: Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.

February 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.

April 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.

May 1977/Stories include: Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.

June 1977/Stories include: Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.

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October 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.

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September 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

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May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

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December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.

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March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

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May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

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OCTOBER 1982

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

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March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

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November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

December 1984/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.

January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

February 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.

March 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

May 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.

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THE WRESTLER

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September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

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December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

February 1977/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Sammartino, Gagne.

May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.

August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

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March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

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January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

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June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.

November 1979/Stories include: Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keim.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff. **January 1981**/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater. **February 1981**/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson. **April 1981**/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw. **May 1981**/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana. **June 1981**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.

July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

September 1983/Stories include: Zbysko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdulrahman, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.



AUGUST 1984

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbysko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Warriors vs. Russians, Hillbilly Jim, Rude, Lawler.

April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts.

May 1986/Stories include: Randy Savage, Stan Hansen, Rock 'n' Rolls.

June 1986/Stories include: British Bulldogs, Windham-Ric Flair, Lance Von Erich, Blanchard.

July 1986/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, Magnum T.A.

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WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

COWBOY RON BASS

Leaving one area for another can be a traumatic experience for a wrestler. Especially if he has been very successful in the area he is leaving. His entire life is thrown into an upheaval; there are new promoters to deal with, new challenges to meet, and new fans to impress. Many wrestlers who have been successful in one area have been known to do very poorly once they arrive in a new territory. But that's not the case with Cowboy Ron Bass, December's "Wrestler of the Month."

Sports Review Wrestling, December 1984

WE WROTE THOSE words nearly two years ago, after Ron Bass left Florida, journeyed north, and won the Mid-Atlantic title and, along with partner Black Bart, the Mid-Atlantic tag team belts. He held both titles for a short period of time and continued to wrestle successfully in the World Championship area.

But in late April of this year, Bass decided that it was time to go home. He said he was returning to Florida armed with a battle plan: first, to win the Bahamas title from Tyree Pride and then to take the Southern championship belt from Lex Lugar.

Well, Ron Bass proved that you can go home again. On May 31, he won the Bahamian title from Pride, considered to be one of the top young wrestlers in the sport. And now, he has his sights set on Lex Lugar.

It would be foolish to bet against his success. For the second time in less than two years, Ron Bass has successfully handled the move from one region to another. He has met the challenges and, despite their hesitance, impressed the fans. Bass has done everything that could be asked of him and thus, for the second time, has been named "Wrestler of the Month" by the staff of *Sports Review Wrestling*.

This puts Bass in rather distinguished company. In this decade, only Ric Flair, Jerry Lawler, Paul Orndorff, Kerry Von Erich, Harley Race, Greg Valentine, Nick Bockwinkel, David Von Erich, Sweet Brown Sugar, Bugsy McGraw, and Tommy Rich have repeated as "Wrestler of the Month."

Naturally, Bass greeted the news of his selection with more than a touch of sarcasm. "Surprised? I'm shocked," said Bass. "The first time you guys gave me this award, I told my friends that it must have been a mistake. I hardly see a word about me in your rags. This is practically a miracle. I guess Lugar and Windham don't get to vote, huh?"

Bass' return to Florida will give him ample opportunity to renew his feud with Barry Windham. This heated rivalry peaked when Bass tied a saddle around Windham's back and rode him around the ring. Since then, Windham

has grown, both physically and as a wrestler. Bass, however, figures to occupy most of his time by going after Lugar.

"I haven't forgotten that little wimp Windham, and I hear his brother Kendall is also quite a piece of work," said Bass. "Imagine, two Windhams to thrash. That should be fun! But I like to mess around with people more my size and that's Lex Lugar. Anyway, he has what I want, and what I'm gonna get."

Bass has reason for his optimism. He's already defeated Pride, who holds a decision over Lugar back when Lugar was a rulebreaker. Pride had also beaten veteran Harley Race, so Bass won the Bahamas title from a tested champion. In addition, Bass has the size to match up with the physically imposing Lugar. Bass weighs 265 pounds while Lugar checks in at 280 pounds.

"I was very surprised when I heard that he beat Tyree," admitted Lugar. "Pride was one of the best wrestlers I've ever faced and I've heard he's gotten even better. I don't know much about Bass but I do know that I'll be ready for him."

Ready or not, Bass is a man who sets his goals and then achieves them. There are too many wrestlers, and athletes in general, who boast about their plans and end up laughingstocks when they fail. Bass is different. He said he was going to win the Mid-Atlantic title, and he did. He said that he was going to beat Tyree Pride, and he did. Is there any reason to believe that he won't succeed again?

"Yes there is," said ex-manager J.J. Dillon, who turned his back on Bass when the two were in the Mid-Atlantic. "People sometimes confuse luck for success and I think that's what we have here. I recognized after a short period of time that Mr. Bass didn't have what it takes. Look at what he's done. He made the logical step up from Florida to the Mid-Atlantic and the World Championship area. So then, you'd think the logical step would be to go after Flair's title. But does he? No. He runs back home because he knows that he doesn't have what it takes."

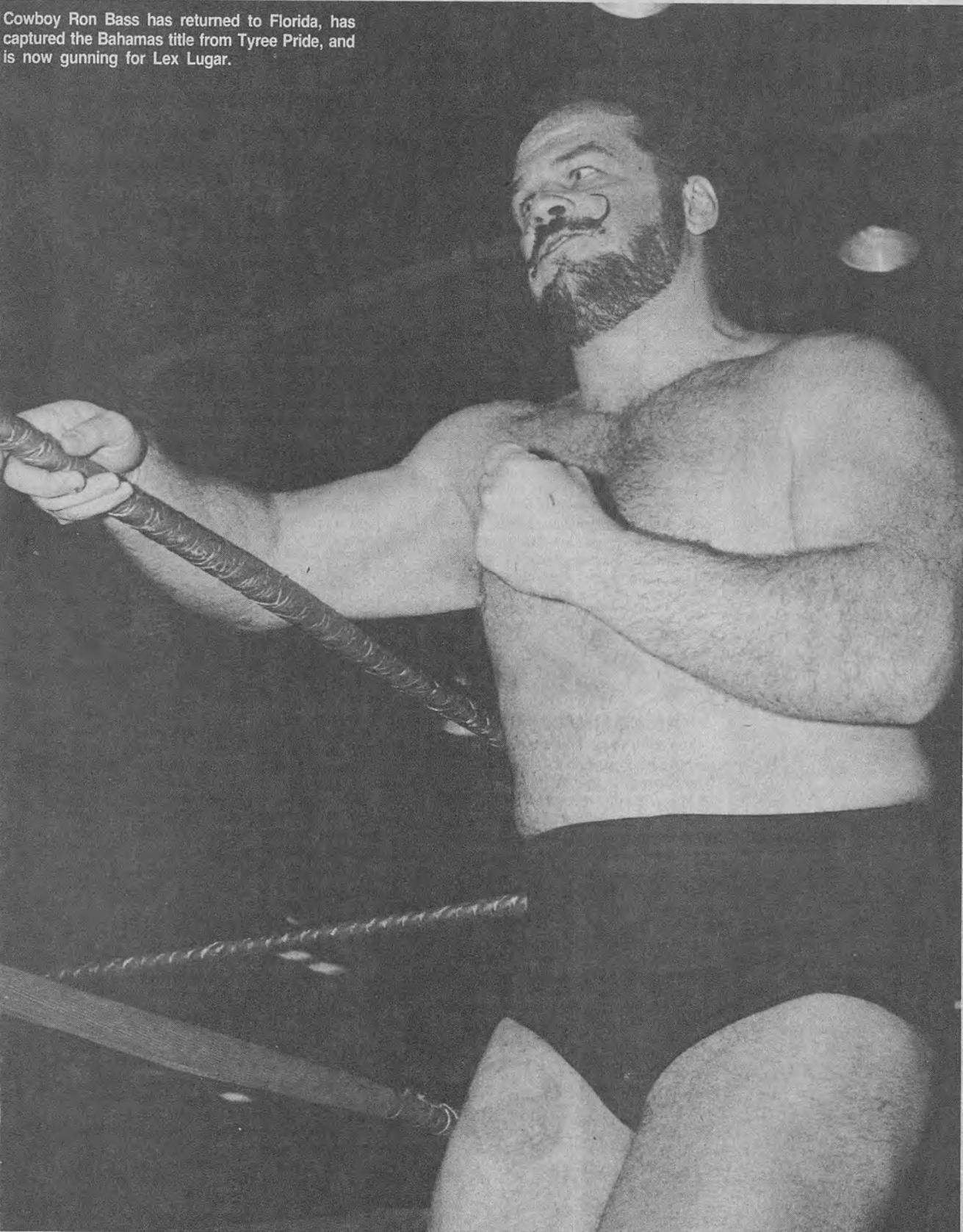
That's one perspective, but Bass know that if he wins the Southern belt, he'll be in line for a shot at Ric Flair's NWA title. So, while it might appear that Bass is running home, he is actually taking the shortest route to a match with Flair.

"Right now, I'm setting my sights on Lugar's title," said Bass, "but I've already beaten that Caribbean monkey Pride and he beat Lugar. So, I figure it should only be a matter of time. Then, I go after Flair. When I beat him and become the World Champion, what's Dillon going to say. What are you guys gonna say?"

Probably something along the lines of, "Congratulations again, Ron Bass, you're our 'Wrestler of the Month.'"

AUGUST 1986

Cowboy Ron Bass has returned to Florida, has captured the Bahamas title from Tyree Pride, and is now gunning for Lex Lugar.





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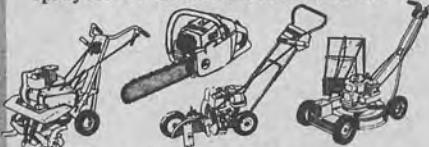


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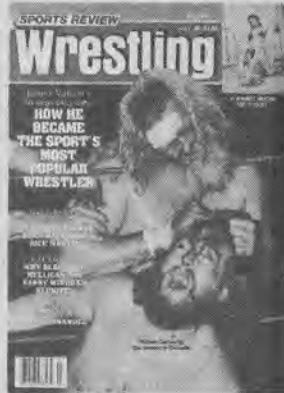
SPORTS REVIEW

Wrestling

March 1978/Andre-Flair, Mascaras, Koloff, Rhodes, Inoki.
 September 1979/Flair-McDaniel, Garvin, Ladd, Rhodes.
 February 1980/Rhodes-Funk, Race, Spoiler, Brisco.
 April 1980/Andre, Mulligan-Studd, LeDuc, Lawler, Ladd.
 May 1980/Koloff-Anderson, Brody-Spoiler, Graham, Andre.
 June 1980/Graham, Patera, Rhodes, Lawler, Zbyszko.
 July 1980/Bruno-Graham, Samoans, Star Wars 1980.
 October 1980/Hogan, Flair, Wrestling II, Super D.

January 1981/Morales-Fuji, Zbyszko, Thornton, Keirn.
March 1981/SPECIAL EDITION—Results of 1980 Fan Awards Poll
 April 1981/Atlas, Flair, Moondogs, Wrestling II.
 June 1981/Morales-Khan, Lawler, Slater, Piper.
 August 1981/Freebirds, Mascaras, Wrestling II, Brisco.
 September 1981/Backlund-Mosca, Freebirds, Flair, Rich, Junkyard Dog.
 October 1981/Rich-Race, Hogan-Hansen, Moondogs, Freebirds, Putski-Koloff.
 November 1981/Rhodes-Dibiase, Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.
 December 1981/Muraco-Morales, Patera, Steele, Andre.
 March 1982/Valentine, Brisco-Funk, Steele, Flair, Hayes.
 April 1982/Spoiler, Idol-Hayes, Morales, Super D, Ladd.
 May 1982/Rich-Flair, Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.
 June 1982/Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka, Wrestlers rate each other.
 July 1982/Steamboat-Idol, Albano, Rhodes, Patera.
 August 1982/Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater, Rhodes, Valentine, Bockwinkel.
 September 1982/Von Erich, Bockwinkel, Mascaras, Hansen, Rhodes.
 October 1982/Funk-Abdullah, Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.

November 1982/Piper, Abdullah, Saito, Von Erich, Mascaras.
 December 1982/Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair, Albano, Humperdink.
 January 1983/Rich, McDaniel-Valentine, Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.
 February 1983/Flair-Race, Morales-Rose, Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.
 March 1983/Flair-Bass, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat, Patera.
 April 1983/Backlund-Graham, Briscos, Rhodes, Hogan, Samoans.
 May 1983/Muraco, Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco, Von Erich.
 June 1983/Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson, Brody, Sullivan, Baba.



JULY 1983

July 1983/Valiant-Humperdink, Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.
 October 1983/Martel-Valentine, Mulligan, Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.
 November 1983/Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody, Slater, Backlund.
 December 1983/Windham-LeDuc, Santana, Sullivan, Garvin.
 January 1984/Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel, Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.
 February 1984/Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen, Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.

March 1984/Starcade '83, Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.
 April 1984/Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki, Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.
 May 1984/LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins, The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!
 June 1984/Windham-Flair, Gilbert, Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.
 July 1984/Flair-Gordy, Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA tag tourney.
 August 1984/Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes, Von Erich, Faces Of Wrestling.
 September 1984/Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.
 October 1984/Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video, Atlas, Orange Bowl card.
 November 1984/Von Erich & Billy Jack, Andre, Fab Ones, Summer Wars!
 December 1984/Rich-Gilbert, Martel, Mascaras, Youngblood, World Class.



JANUARY 1985

January 1985/Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund, Fabulous Ones, Pro Wrestling USA, Valentine.
 February 1985/Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts, Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.
 March 1985/Starcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloffs, 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.

April 1985/Von Erich-Blackwell, Haynes-Barr, Hart, Irwins, 1984 in Pictures, Blair.
 May 1985/Albano, Freebirds-Flair, Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas.
 June 1985/Pro Wrestling U.S.A., Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.
 July 1985/Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches, Backlund, Snuka.
 August 1985/Flair-Nikita, Orndorff, Slaughter, Parade of Champions II.
 September 1985/Adams-Von Erich, Orndorff, Sawyer, Kamala, Barr, Atlanta, Steamboat.
 October 1985/Martel-Hayes, Richter, Savage, Adams, T.A., Warriors.
 November 1985/Freebirds-Warriors, Mid-South, Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.
 December 1985/Hogan, Zbyszko-Martel, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.
 January 1986/Savage-Santana, Abdulrahim, Humongous, Von Raschke, Comiskey Park, Taylor.
 February 1986/Junkyard Dog, Rude, Patrick, Garvin, Reed, Datebook.
 March 1986/Starcade '85, Ventura, Windham, Sunshine, Slaughter.
 April 1986/Savage-Hogan, Martel-Hansen, 1985 in Pictures, Warriors, DiBiase.
 May 1986/Sammartino, R&R Express, Sunshine-Hayes, Slater, Devastating Holds, Hall & Hennig.
 June 1986/Hogan-Muraco, Midnight Express, Freebirds, Battle of Belts II.
 July 1986/Orndorff-Piper, Blanchard-T.A., Matches of '80s, Sheepherders, Bockwinkel, Bulldogs.

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INTERVIEW

BILL DUNDEE

As we go to press, Bill Dundee's Mid-Southern heavyweight title is in jeopardy, facing a double threat from Buddy Landell and Jerry Lawler, both former tag-team partners. The

reason stems from a recent match, when referee Jimmy Jett was knocked unconscious and missed Dundee's pin of Landell. When Jett recovered, he saw Landell holding Dundee in a fig-

ure-four leglock. Dundee submitted and Landell was awarded the title.

But Dundee protested, claiming that he pinned Landell while Jett was unconscious. After a brief meeting, Mid-Southern officials decided to hold up the title and ordered a "Coward Waves The Flag" match on June 9.

This appeared to be the logical decision, but a "Coward Waves The Flag" match? Upon hearing about this, we rummaged through our files, searching in vain for any records of a previous "Coward Waves The Flag" match. There were none; apparently this is an innovation of Mid-Southern officials. Dutch Mantell will be in Landell's corner and Rip Rogers in Dundee's corner, both holding flags. The only way for a wrestler to win is if the cornerman waves the flag.

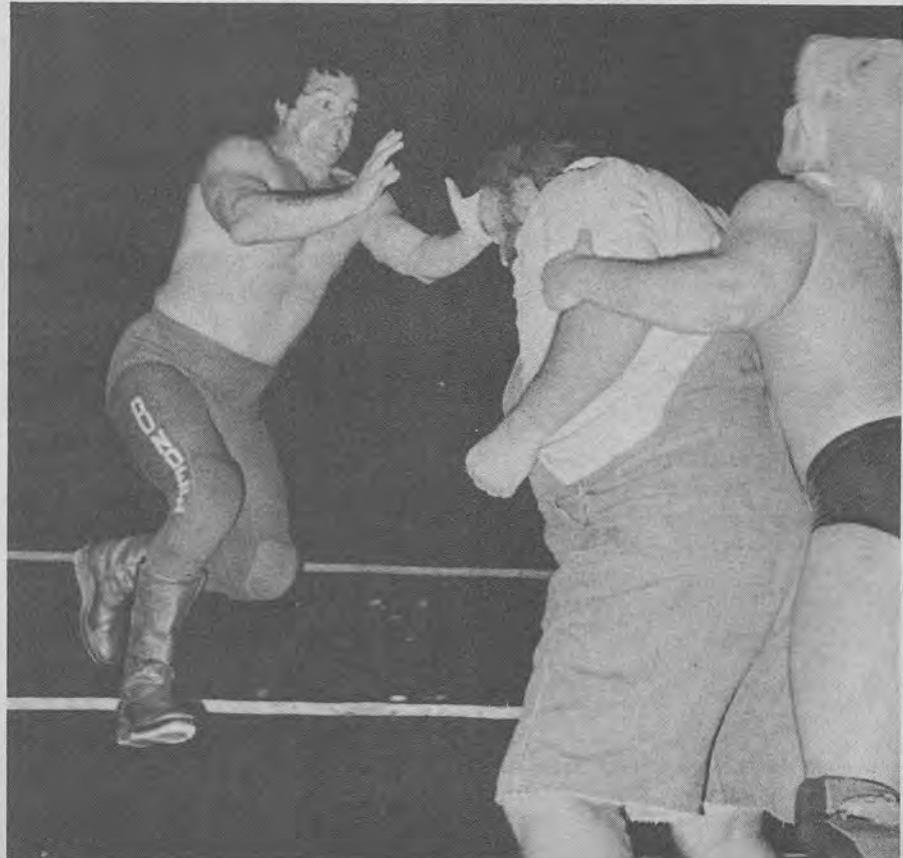
Innovative, yes, but Bill Dundee has his own ideas. The 215-pound veteran from Melbourne, Australia, is not particularly fond of this match and suspects that Landell and Lawler are conspiring with Mid-Southern officials to rob him of his title. Dundee and Lawler were once good friends but are now mortal enemies. Of course, Dundee and Landell turned on each other in a tag team match and are involved in a bloody feud.

Outspoken and not afraid of who he offends, Dundee discussed these and other recent events in an exclusive interview with Sports Review Wrestling Assistant Editor Dave Rosenbaum. His words are sure to cause a furor in the Mid-Southern region, but that, after all, has become a Bill Dundee tradition.





Above: Portrait of a tag team in happier days—Bill Dundee and Buddy Landell, once close friends, are now feuding. Below: During a match just prior to their split, Landell holds Hillbilly Elmer while Dundee flies off the top rope with a headbutt.



Q: Bill, thanks for taking the time to talk to us. We realize that you've had a rather hectic schedule recently and you're probably busy preparing for the "Coward Waves The Flag" match with Buddy Landell.

A: Actually, this whole "Coward Waves The Flag" crap wasn't my idea at all. It's something that Landell, Jett, and the Jerry Lawler-controlled Mid-Southern officials came up with to try and rob me of my title. You just watch. A breeze will make Rip's (Rogers) flag move a fraction of an inch and they'll give Landell my belt.

Q: If I may be so bold, I think I detect a hint of paranoia on your part.

A: Paranoid? Who you calling paranoid? I've seen everything I have to see. I have my sources, and they all say that Lawler is in control of the Mid-Southern region. He's like a god down here. Lawler this, Lawler that. It's all I ever hear about! He decides who wrestles who and when. It's another tribute to my amazing talent that despite this conspiracy, I'm still the Mid-Southern champion. Let me ask you one thing: have you ever heard of a "Coward Waves The Flag" match?

Q: No.

A: And has one ever been held before?

Q: According to our records, no.

A: So this proves what I've been saying. It's a conspiracy.

Q: Everybody has his own views on what happened the night of June 2 in the Mid-South Coliseum and I'm sure that you do too. Care to share them with us?

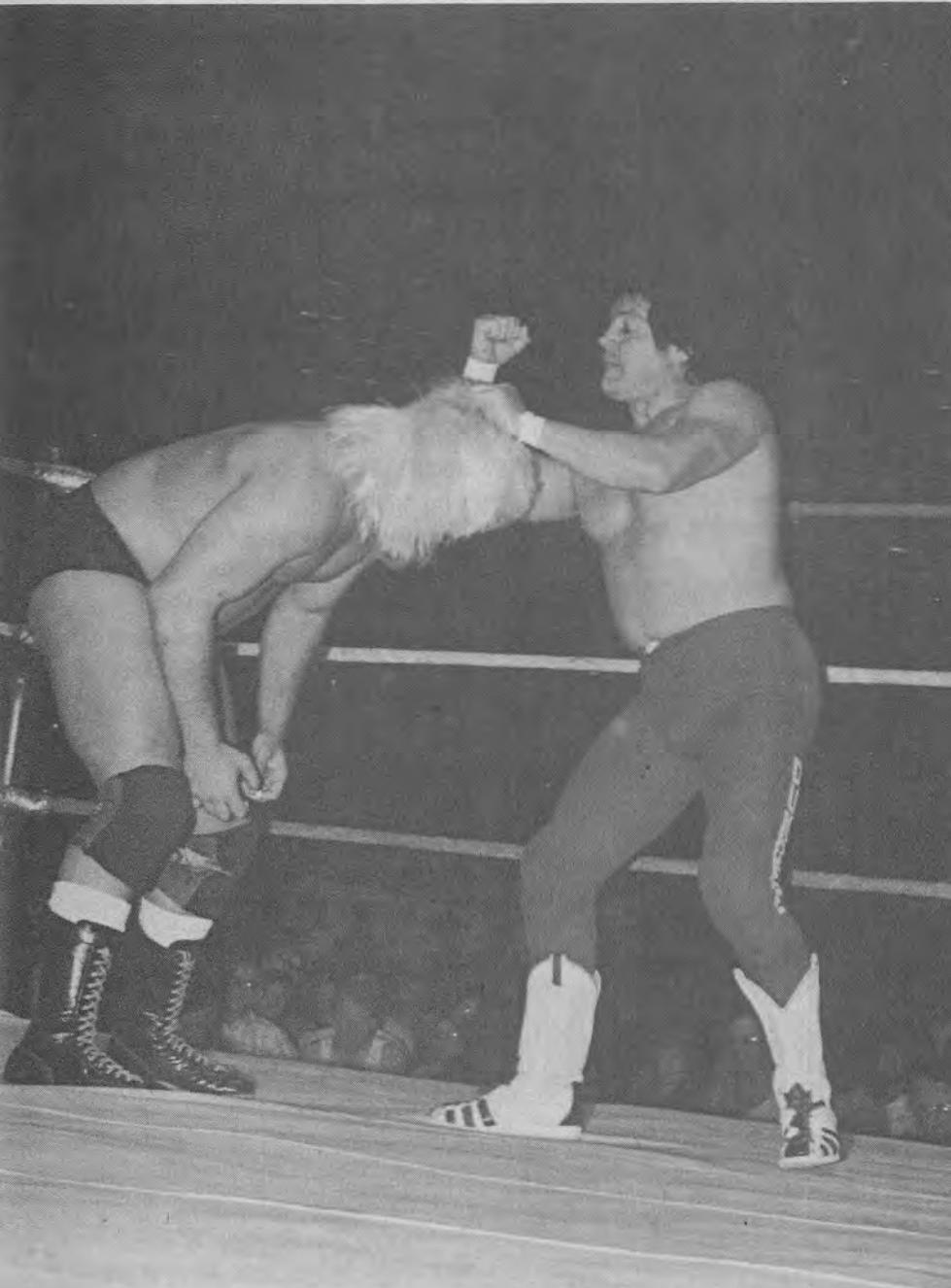
A: There's only one proper view of what happened and this is it. I had Landell pinned and beaten. The match was over and I won, except the referee, this Jimmy Jett character, made believe that he was unconscious and didn't see what happened. I'm sure he's one of Lawler's cronies. Well, I thought I had it won but then that sneaky

Landell put me in a figure-four and, naturally, Jett came back to life in time to see this. Amazing coincidence, isn't it? Then, Jett decides that Landell won and gives him the title. Well, that didn't last for long but they still didn't make the right decision. The belt should have remained in my possession.

Q: When you think about it, though, it really doesn't matter. If you win the "Coward Waves the Flag" match, you'll have the belt, just

like you did before. If you lose, Landell gets the title, anyway. Actually, once a champion and challenger step into the ring, it doesn't really matter which one is which, does it?

A: That may be stupidest question that I have ever heard. I've worked very hard to win the title and it's rightfully mine. You've obviously never won anything important, so you wouldn't know what I'm talking about. The fact that Landell



Dundee now has his hands full with two violent feuds, but seems to have more than enough energy to handle them both. Above: Landell is the recipient of a well-directed elbow to the back of the neck. Top right: Jerry Lawler gets a taste of his own medicine from Dundee—a flying fistdrop from the top rope.



and I will walk into the ring on equal terms is an affront to my standing as a champion. Of course it matters, you dimwit.

Q: Thank you for the kind words, Bill. Actually, it might be time to move on to another line of questioning. You and Landell were longtime best friends and tag team partners and suddenly, in a matter of weeks, everything fell apart. In your mind, what happened?

A: A simple case of misjudging character. Sometimes, it happens to even the best of us. I thought that Buddy Landell was an honest man, but apparently I was wrong. For weeks before the tournament in Memphis, we were missing tags, running into each other, and it seemed as if our opponents were always aware of our next move. Well, I put two and two together and realized that Landell had become a double-agent, of sorts.

Q: A double-agent?

A: Exactly. Lawler had bought him off, too. He was trying to sabotage us. Well, I decided that this had gone far enough so when the right opportunity came up, I took advantage. The last straw was when

Landell let Lawler get loose. That confirmed what I already knew.

Q: So you pulled out a chain and beat Landell.

A: And a glorious moment it was, my declaration of independence. From that moment on, it was war with Buddy Landell. He has nowhere to hide, nowhere to run to. Nobody can save him. Buddy Landell is my personal whipping boy. I will teach him a lesson he'll never forget.

Q: One question that immediately pops into my mind is why would Lawler want to buy off Buddy Landell? After all, the two were mortal enemies and Landell wouldn't seem to serve any purpose to Lawler, unless he was trying to soften you up.

A: Exactly. Lawler knew that he and Austin Idol couldn't beat me on their own, so they had to get Landell to help them. Naturally, a scum like Landell can be easily bought off. You see, Landell became friends with Lawler too quickly after that incident for them not to have been friends before. And let me tell you one thing. Nobody double-crosses me, not Lawler, not Landell, not nobody.

Q: You were once friends with Lawler. In fact, you've had an on-again, off-again friendship for quite a long time.

A: Jerry Lawler and I were never really friends. We just served each other's purpose, but no longer. I will never again associate with that clown. He's proven his uselessness. Now I'm sick of talking about him. Get on to something else.

Q: One final question, Bill. There's a little triangle here between you, Landell, and Lawler. But how about Austin Idol? You really don't talk much about him.

A: Guilt by association, my friend. They're all out for one thing: destroy Bill Dundee and steal my title. Well, it'll never happen. They might as well take the Mid-Southern belt and engrave my name on it because they'll never get it back. □

Wrestling '86

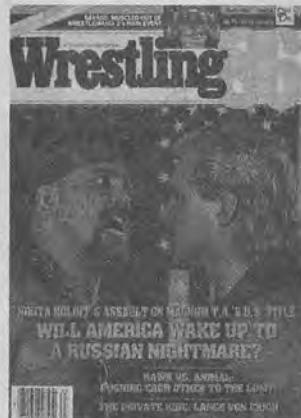
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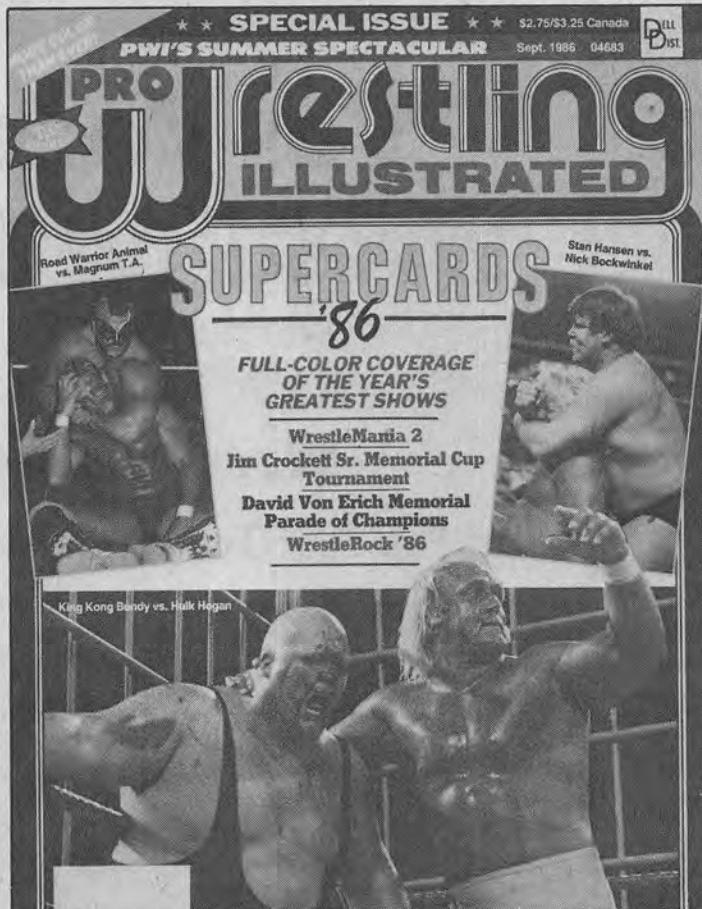
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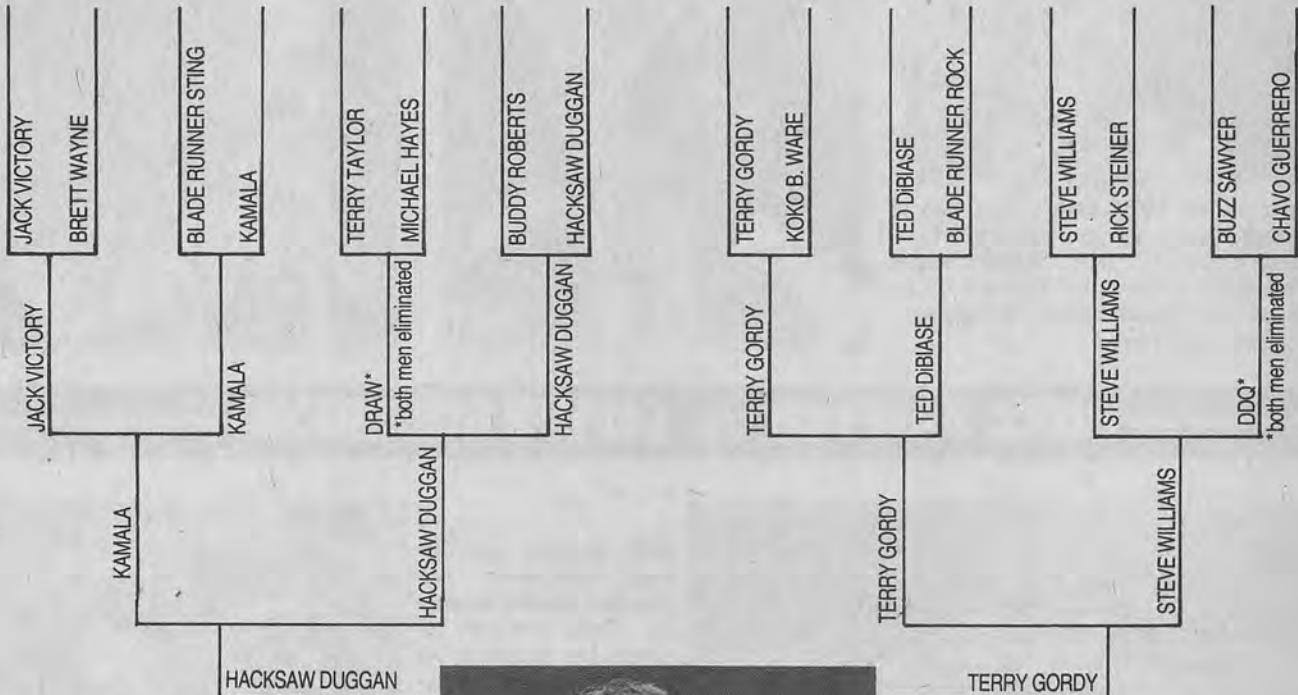
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SENSATIONAL COVERAGE OF THE FIRST UWF TITLE TOURNAMENT!



THE GOAL WAS the first-ever Universal Wrestling Federation title and \$100,000 in cash, but to win, a wrestler had to survive four grueling matches against some of the most rugged competition in the world. Certainly, the UWF is not the best-known of the major federations, but it could be the toughest. The UWF's single elimination tournament at the Sam Houston Coliseum proved this.

Ted DiBiase flew in from Japan for the tourney but played his most important role after he was eliminated. The Freebirds, former World Class six-man tag team champions, proved that teamwork can pay off, even in a singles match. And Gen. Skandor Akbar showed how even the most ingenious wrestling mind can sometimes backfire.



TERRY GORDY

The tournament became necessary when the Mid-South changed its name to the UWF and Hacksaw Jim Duggan's heavyweight title was retired. Duggan returned to try to regain the title, along with Buddy Roberts, Michael Hayes, Terry Gordy, Jack Victory, Kamala, Steve Williams, DiBiase, Buzz Sawyer, and six more of the finest wrestlers in the area. In all, the four rounds encompassed 13 matches, including a final round bout which proved to be anticlimactic.

Photographers Peter Rene and Alice Marie Nelson were on hand at ringside to capture all the thrills and excitement of this exceptional evening of wrestling. *Sports Review Wrestling* is pleased to present this ringside seat for the UWF Champion. *(Continued on page 62)*

Every major wrestler in the UWF area clamored for the golden opportunity: To fight through four rounds of matches, win \$100,000, and become the first UWF heavyweight champion. In this special section, we present all the action and drama of this magnificent event!

-BRETT SAWYER vs. JACK VICTORY-



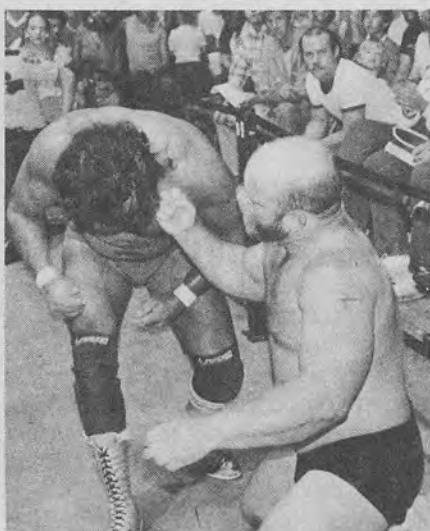
Above: Victory holds Sawyer firm with a headlock. Right: Sawyer retaliates with a forearm smash. Far right: Sawyer's bodypress will hit its target, but Brett will fail to gain the pin. [Result: Victory wins by pinfall at the 6:23 mark.]



BUZZ SAWYER vs. CHAVO GUERRERO



Left: Sawyer's over-the-knee backbreaker has Guerrero howling in agony. Right: Sawyer assumes the advantage as the battle spills out of the ring. At this point, both men seemed to forget about the tournament itself and were overcome by their own fury. [Result: The referee ruled a double disqualification at the 7:30 mark due to out-of-the-ring fighting; both men were eliminated from the tournament.]

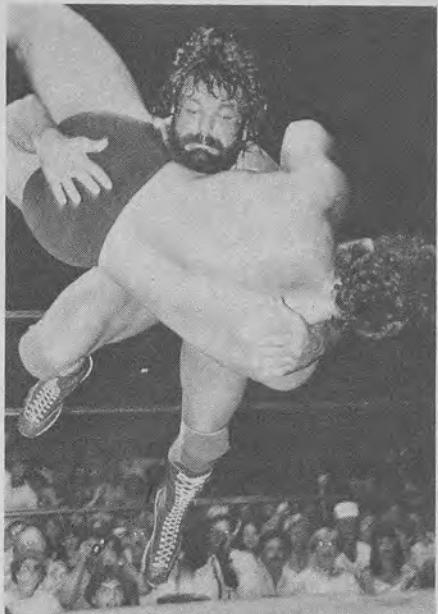


KAMALA vs. BLADE RUNNER STING

Right: The Blade Runners' manager Eddie Gilbert looks on as Sting deftly avoids a charging Kamala. Far right: Kamala reaches down and prepares to attack with a kick to Sting's head. [Result: Kamala wins by pinfall at the 3:43 mark with help from his manager, Skandor Akbar.]



-RICK STEINER vs. STEVE WILLIAMS-



Far left: Williams delivers a thundering powerslam to Steiner. Left: Williams struggles to escape from the viselike grip of Steiner's headlock. Above: Williams' airplane spin will set Steiner up for a pinfall attempt. [Result: Williams wins by pin after a flying body-press at the 10:23 mark.]

—TERRY TAYLOR vs. MICHAEL HAYES—



Left: Taylor's superb leg-scissors - and - grapevine combination has Hayes immobilized. Right: Hayes, refusing to break his sleeperhold for almost two full minutes, has Taylor nearly unconscious. The battle between these two men was a remarkable display of scientific and tactical moves and countermoves. [Result: 20:00 time-limit draw; both men are eliminated from the tournament.]



—TED DiBIASE vs. BLADE RUNNER ROCK—



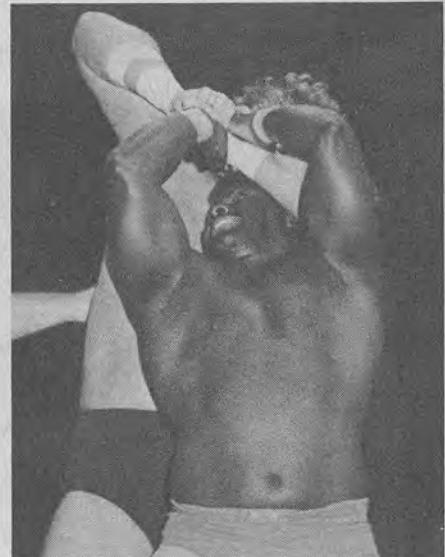
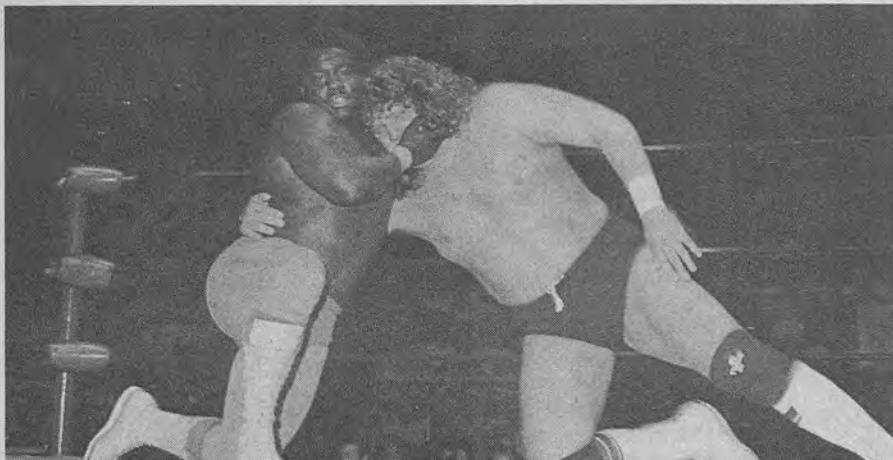
Far left: Rock howls as he catapults DiBiase into the far corner turnbuckle. Left: DiBiase's well-directed elbowsmash to the throat sends the powerful Rock crumbling to the mat. [Result: DiBiase wins by pinfall at the 3:30 mark via a small package.]

— HACKSAW DUGGAN vs. BUDDY ROBERTS —



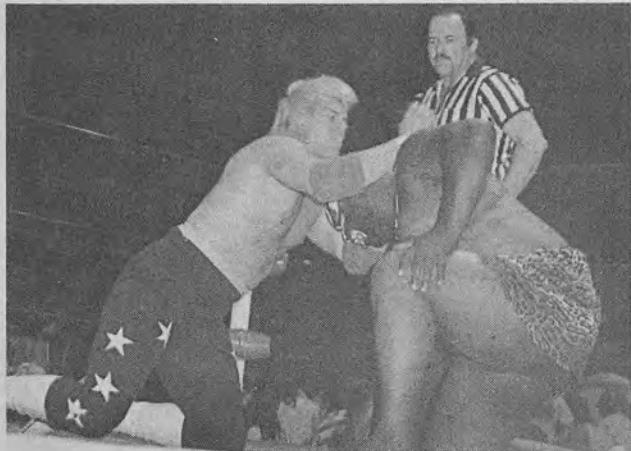
Left: Barely seconds after the opening bell, Roberts takes the battle to the arena floor and chokes Duggan with a piece of wrist tape. Above: Duggan makes contact with a kneesmash to the Freebird's chest. [Result: Duggan wins via pinfall at the 2:53 mark following a football tackle to a flying bodypress combination.]

— TERRY GORDY vs. KOKO B. WARE —



Above: Ware's side headlock won't keep the 289-pound Freebird Gordy down for long. Right: Gordy easily overpowers Ware in this test of strength. [Result: Following a clothesline, Gordy scores the pinfall at the 9:27 mark.]

— KAMALA vs. JACK VICTORY —



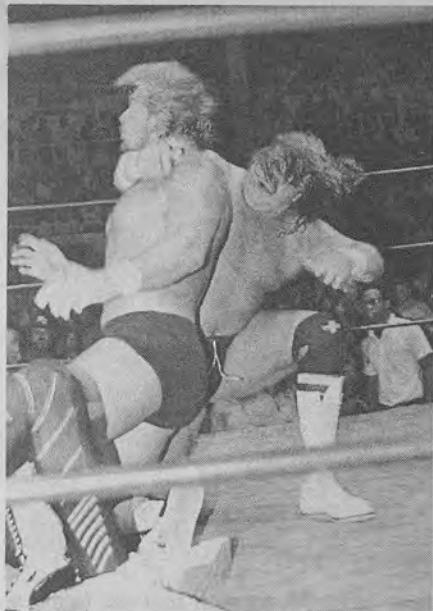
Left: After dropping Kamala to the mat, Victory follows up with a forearm smash to the back of the neck. Right: The Ugandan giant covers Victory for the pinfall; Victory will be unable to kick out from under the 360-pounder. [Result: Kamala gains the pinfall at the 2:10 mark following a flying bodypress.]



— TERRY GORDY vs. TED DiBIASE —



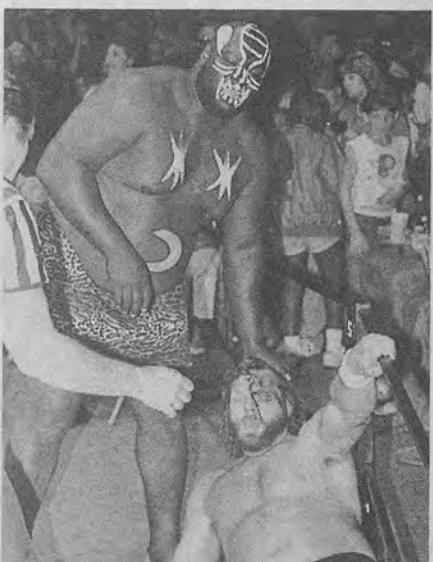
Above: DiBiase's flying clothesline sends Gordy sprawling to the canvas. Right: With Michael Hayes lending some help by tripping up DiBiase (note legs in foreground), Gordy responds with a clothesline of his own. [Result: Gordy pins DiBiase at the 8:30 mark.]



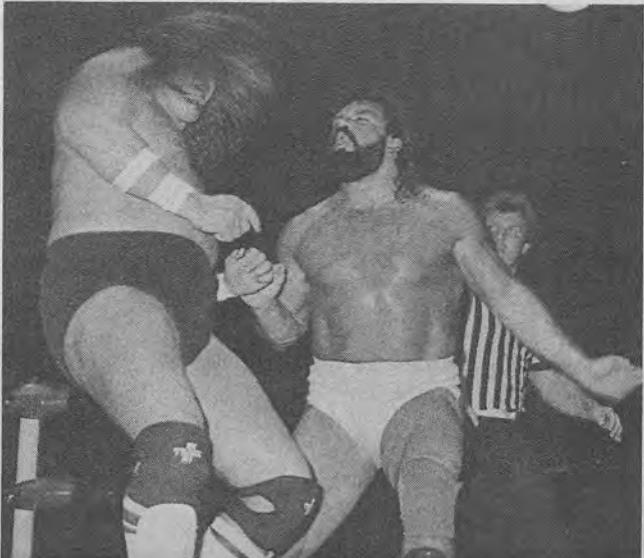
— HACKSAW DUGGAN vs. KAMALA —



Above: Duggan follows through on a closed-fist punch to Kamala's chin that sends the giant reeling. Right: Kamala opens a gash in Duggan's head after smashing him into the ring barrier. [Result: Ted DiBiase interfered in the match, hit Kamala with a loaded glove, and Duggan gained the pin at the 3:00 mark, advancing to the final match against Gordy.]



— STEVE WILLIAMS vs. TERRY GORDY —



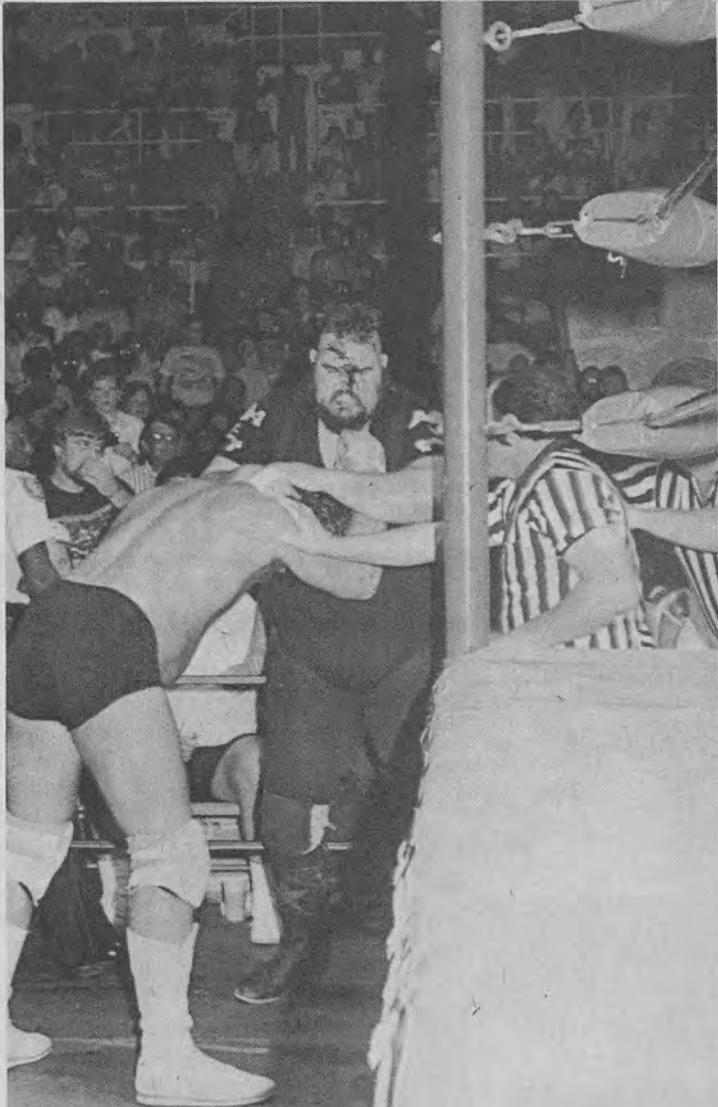
Left: Williams connects with a backhand smash. Right: As the match spills out of the ring, Williams takes the advantage with a bodyslam to the concrete floor. [Result: Referee Carl Fergie stopped the match at the 5:06 mark due to Williams' severe head injury. He awarded the decision to Gordy, who advanced to the final match against Duggan.]

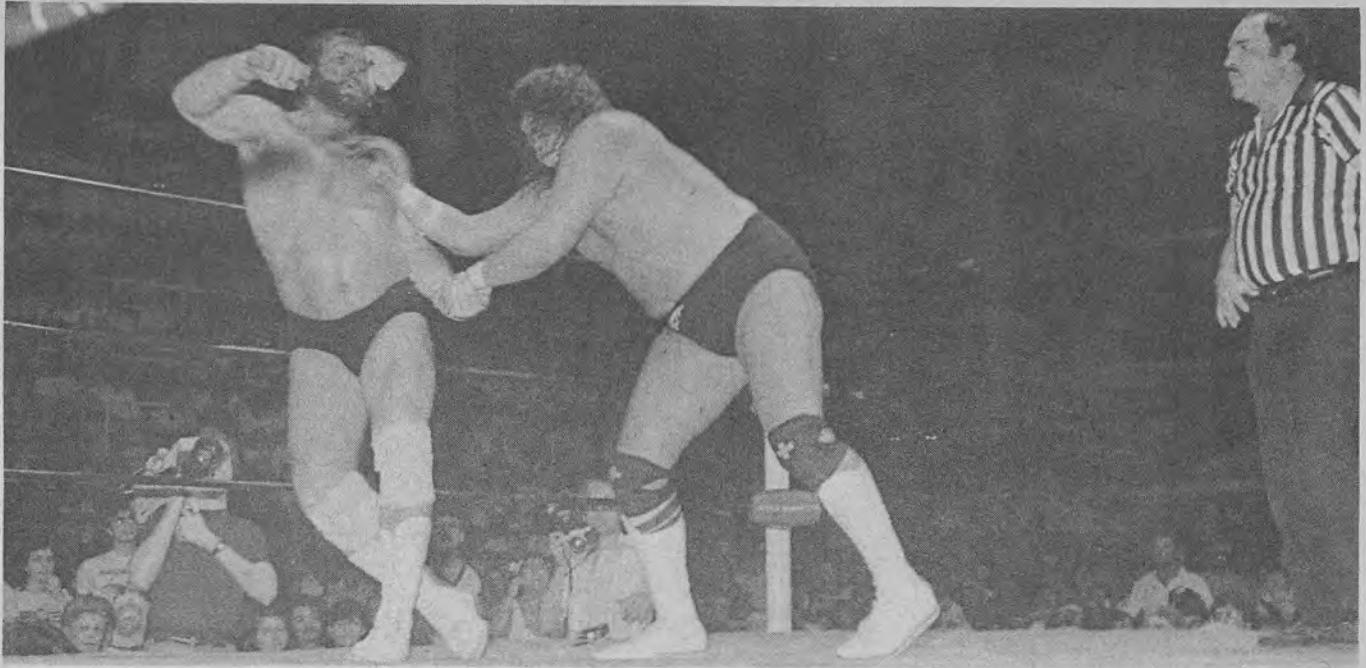


TERRY GORDY vs. HACKSAW DUGGAN

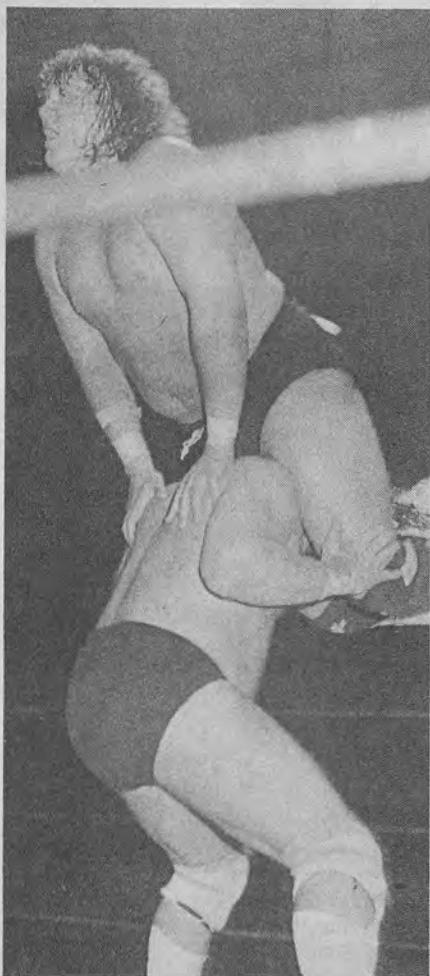


Prior to the final match between Gordy and Duggan, One Man Gang appeared at ringside, outraged at having been left out of the tournament, and attacked Duggan. Above: OMG smashes Duggan's head into the ring apron. Right: Though bloody, OMG can see clearly enough to send Duggan crashing to the mat. Below right: Referees Carl Fergie and Tommy Gilbert are unsuccessful in their attempts to stop OMG's attack. Below: After Duggan is allowed a five minute rest period to recover from OMG's attack, his match with Gordy is finally on; this piledriver has Duggan wishing he were still back in his dressing room resting!





Above: A groggy Duggan is easily whipped into the ropes by Gordy. Below: Duggan's best moment of offense in the match came with this backdrop. [Result: After 5:58, during which Duggan was wrestling purely on instinct, Gordy gained the pinfall.] Right: The thrill of victory! Gordy, the first UWF champion and \$100,000 richer, celebrates with his Freebird brothers Hayes and Roberts—and a few bottles of champagne.



THE BRITISH BULLDOGS -



Photos by David Fitzgerald

"Every dog must have his day," according to Jonathan Swift. And if The British Bulldogs aren't prepared to alter their approach to the WWF tag team championship, it might be one of their worthy challengers who have their day.



WWF World heavyweight tag team champions The British Bulldogs are one of the sport's most exciting teams. Surprisingly, though, they often absorb a lot of punishment in their matches. Here, Jim Neidhart powerslams Davey Boy Smith.

LIVING ON THE EDGE OF DISASTER!

Davey Boy Smith's arms bulge as he grabs a few handfuls of Brett Hart's hair.

I AGREE THAT dogs possess something very like a conscience.

—Charles Darwin

Could Darwin have been referring to The British Bulldogs? Darwin came along well before the ascent of Davey Boy Smith and Dynamite Kid and the descent of Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine, but after all, the personality of the dog hasn't changed over the years. They are among the most loyal of animals: true to the core and faithful to the very end.

The name fits. There's certainly a bit of dog in The British Bulldogs, probably the most honest tag team in wrestling, two men who wrestle by the book and rely on scientific skills to defeat their opponents.

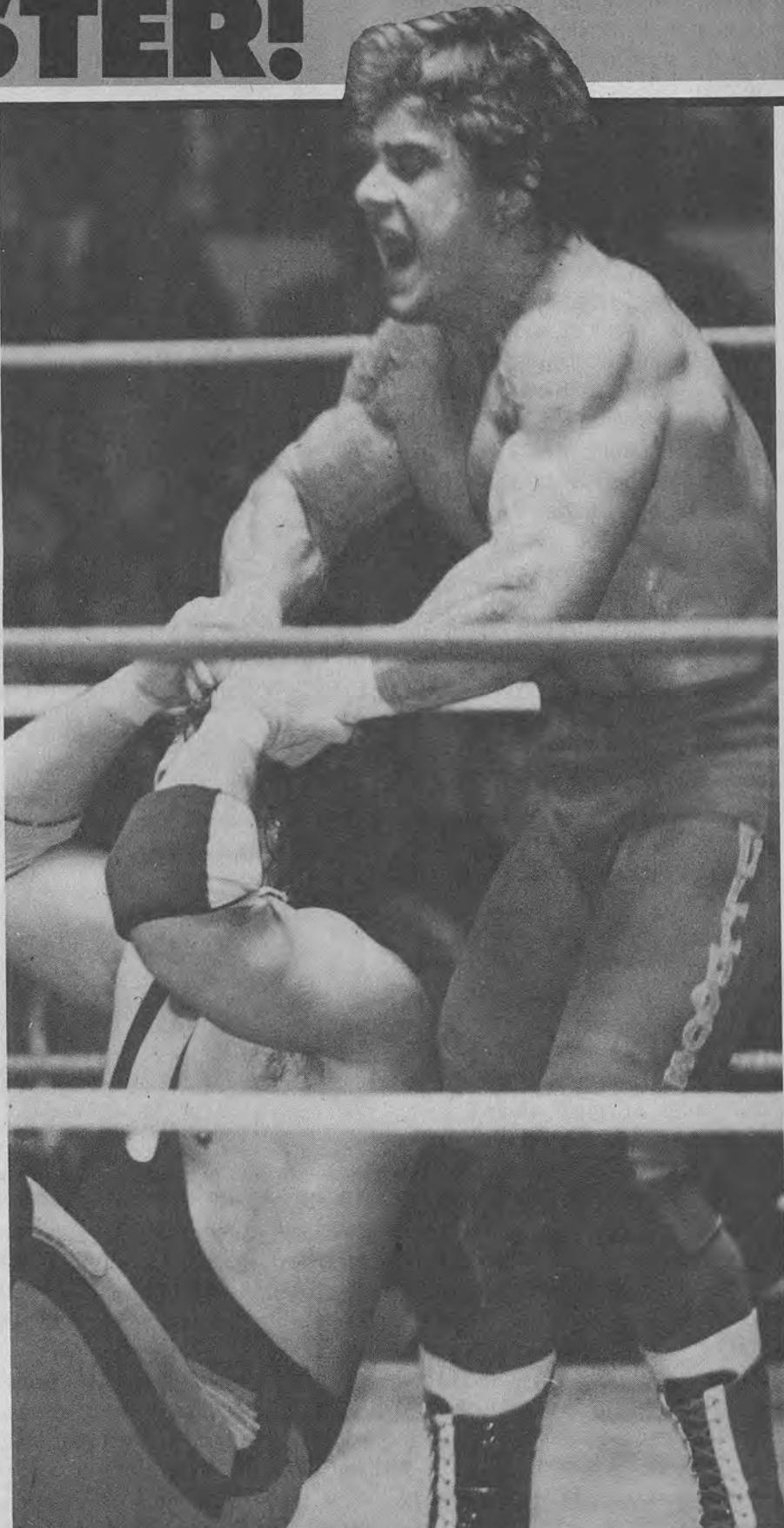
Even the addition of manager Lou Albano, once one of the most hated men in wrestling, wasn't enough to change their style. Instead, Albano helped instill the killer instinct, that one missing ingredient that the Bulldogs needed to win the WWF tag team belts. Still, the Bulldogs have stuck to what got them there in the first place: honesty, hard work, and scientific wrestling in its purest sense.

But there's only one problem . . .

A living dog is better than a dead lion.

—Ecclesiastes

One would hardly expect a strict scientific wrestler to take chances. The scientific style is built around the laws of probability, calculatingly wearing down an opponent



through a series of well-planned and executed maneuvers. To lose control is to lose the match.

Usually, it's the brawlers who are reckless and adopt a win at any cost attitude. Roddy Piper, one of the top stars in the WWF, is willing to take five blows just to land one. It's a chance he takes. Hulk Hogan, the WWF champion, takes a beating in nearly every match but expects as much as the price for his roughhouse style.

And then, there's The British Bulldogs, scientific wrestlers who break the mold of caution. In the tag team title bout at WrestleMania 2, Davey Boy Smith whipped Greg Valentine toward his own corner where Dynamite Kid leveled him with a headbutt as he came in full speed. Smith fell on Valentine for the pin and The British Bulldogs won the title. The other consequence was obvious: Smith was just as likely to get knocked out by Valentine and thereby lose the match.

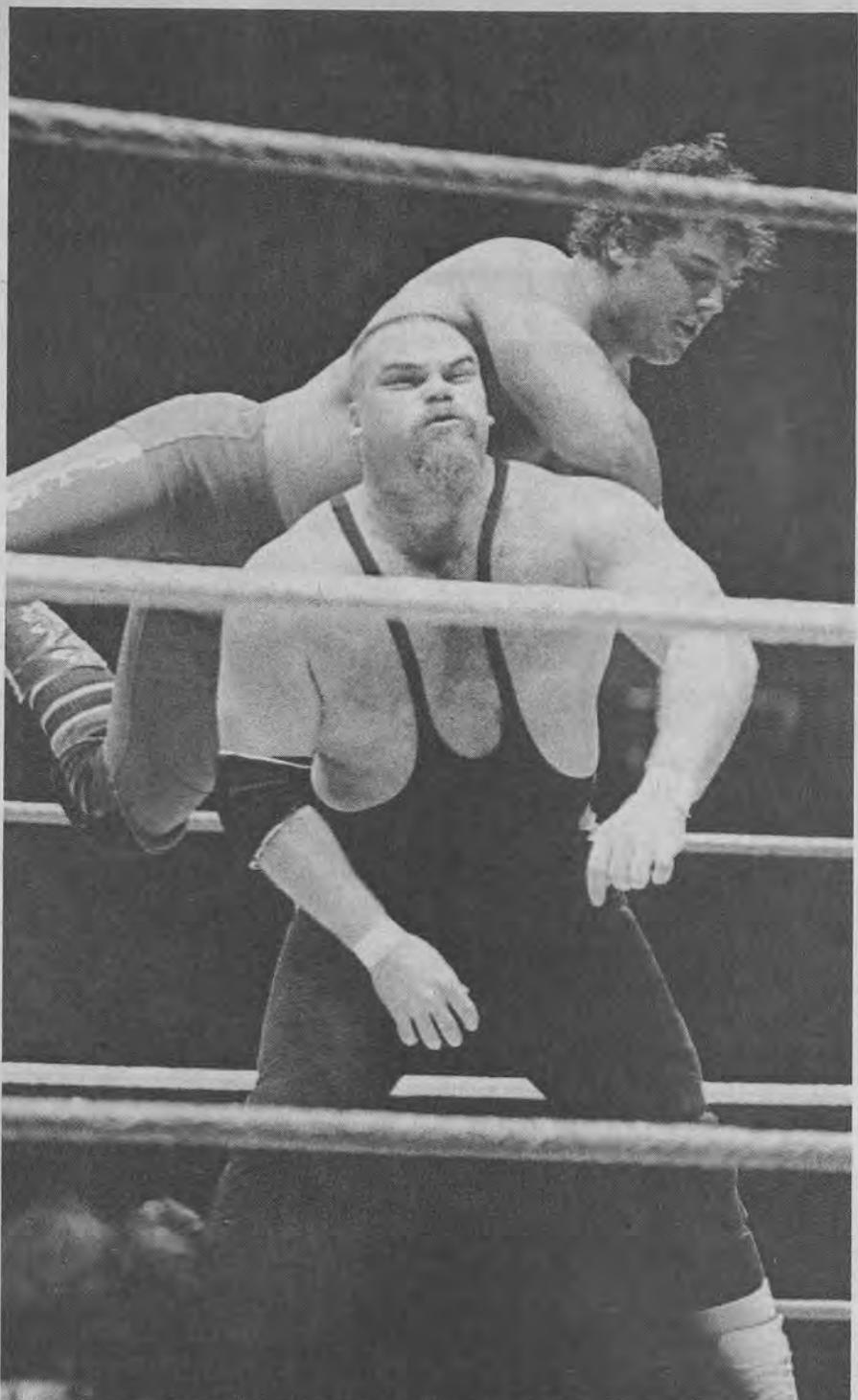
Wrestlers are expected to take chances on the way up: Usually, it's the only way to get to the top. A contender has nothing to lose. A champion is risking his title. Once he gets to the top, a more cautious style is usually adopted. In the case of The British Bulldogs, this isn't true. With nothing to gain, and everything to lose, the Bulldogs are trying to attain that which isn't there.

Fox-terriers are born with about four times as much original sin in them as other dogs.

—Jerome K. Jerome

"These guys might be a little too honest for their own good," said one WWF observer. "There comes a time when you have to fight fire with fire. When a man is coming at you with a gun, you don't try to charge him, you pull a gun. I'm not sure that the Bulldogs are willing to pull that gun and it could get them in trouble."

He could be right, because if The British Bulldogs come under the



Bulldog excellence in high-flying action: Davey Boy Smith delivers a perfectly-executed cross-bodyblock to the back of Jim Neidhart. The Bulldogs' willingness to use such high-risk maneuvers, however, may one day be the key to their downfall.

category "other dogs," Valentine and Beefcake, Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik, Jim Neidhart and Brett Hart, fall under the category "fox-terriers."

The fact is, for all of The British Bulldogs' ability, they're either incapable of or unwilling to get down and dirty. Cheating is not a part of their game plan. Injuring their opponents is not the key. This style is

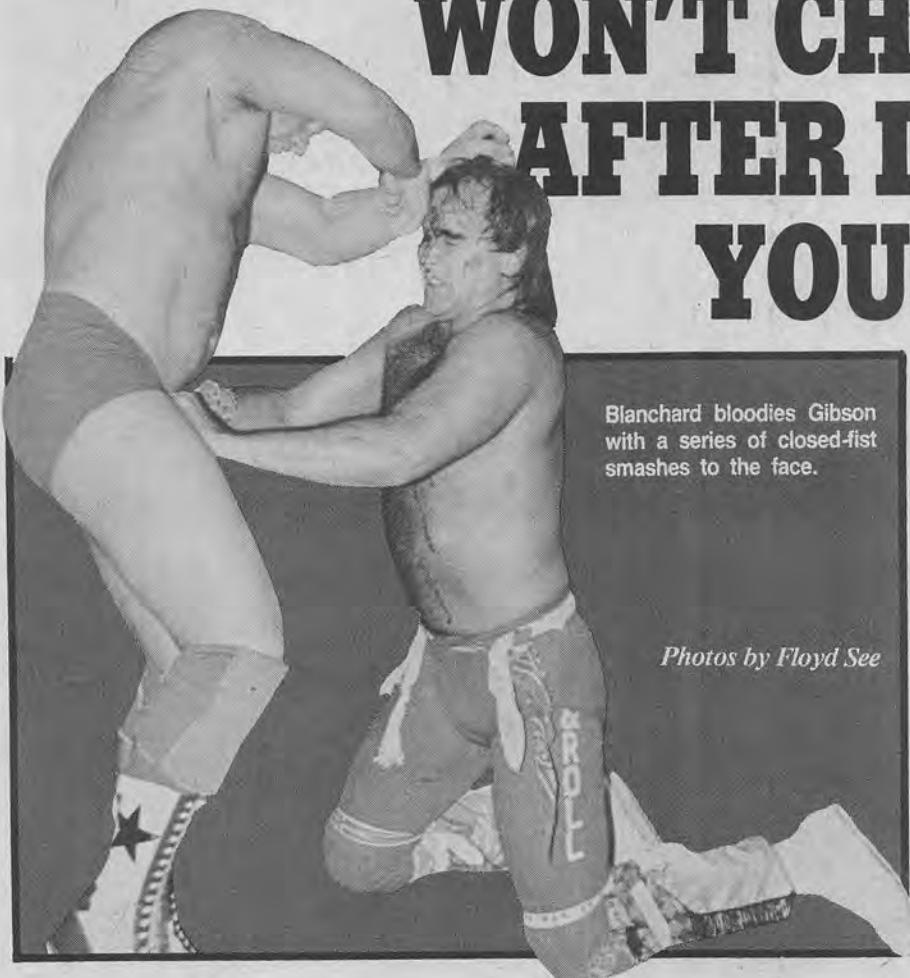
rare in professional wrestling and certainly a virtue. But what happens when your opponents know every rule-breaking technique in the book?

The difficulty of defeating The British Bulldogs in a scientific match has become apparent to most every contender to the WWF tag team throne. Volkoff and The Iron Sheik,

(Continued on page 54)

Tully Blanchard Threatens Robert Gibson:

"THE TEENYBOPPERS WON'T CHEER YOU AFTER I MANGLE YOUR FACE!"



Blanchard bloodies Gibson with a series of closed-fist smashes to the face.

Photos by Floyd See

"HOW ABOUT A drink?" asked Tully Blanchard, acting more the gracious host than one had a right to imagine. "Vodka, Scotch, gin, beer. You name it. I even have some milk, just in case Gibson and his buddy Morton ever drop by. That'll be the day."

It was a rare relaxing afternoon for the National champion. Blanchard spends hours a week on the road, but

today, he was back home enjoying all the comforts of his sprawling duplex and using the time to reflect on his current state of affairs.

In his eight-plus years in the sport, Blanchard has made few friends and many enemies. Currently, his hatred index is at a peak: Magnum T.A., Dusty Rhodes, Baby Doll, Ronnie Garvin, and Rick Morton are all ongoing feuds, but Robert Gibson has been oc-

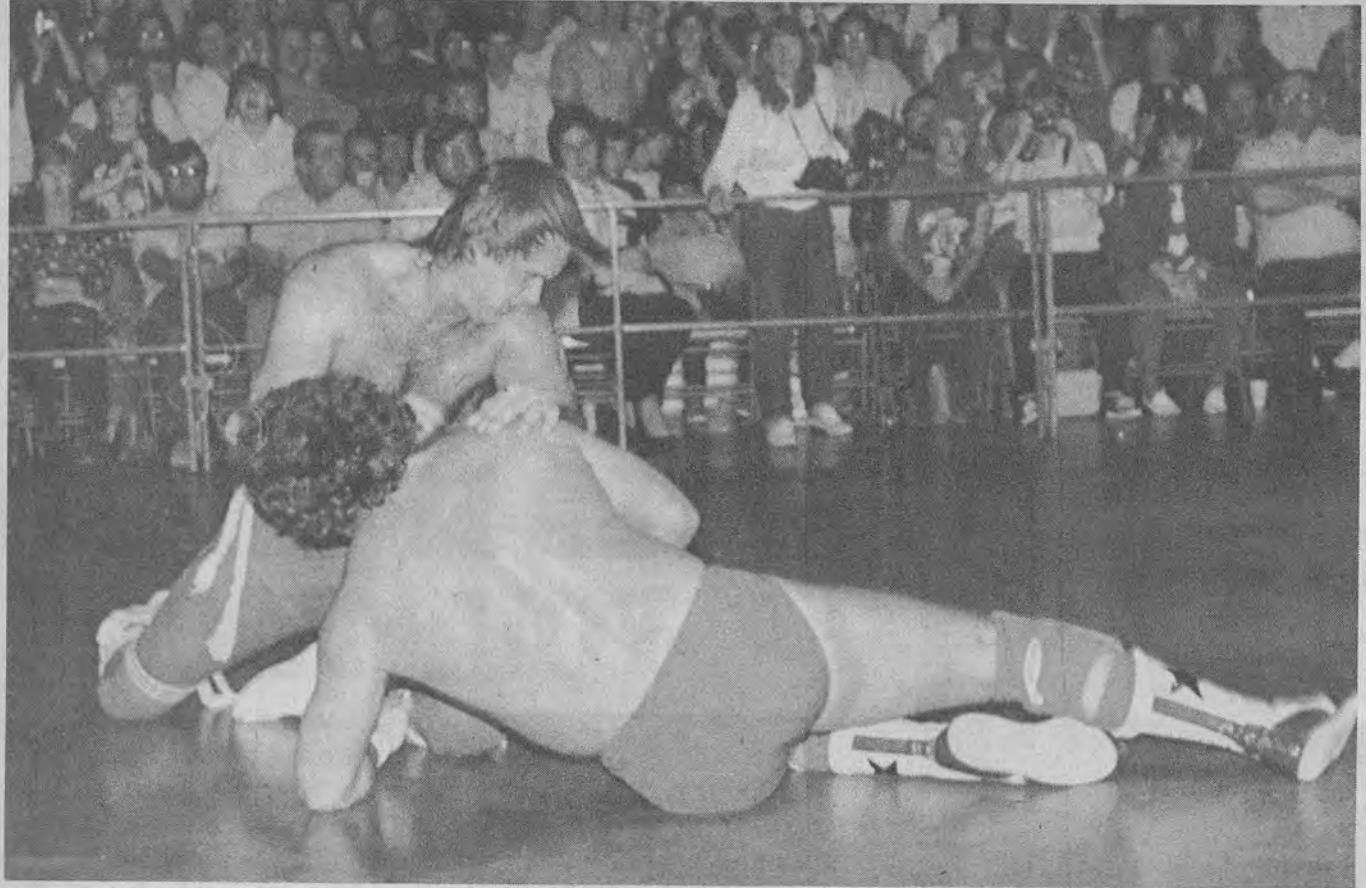
cupying most of Blanchard's time.

"I don't think he understands the difference between wrestling on your own and wrestling in tag teams, and I'm sure as hell gonna teach him," said Blanchard as he walked from the kitchen of his sprawling duplex. "It's a joke. Morton thinks he can beat the World champion and Gibson thinks he can beat me. Well, here's where we separate the men from the boys. Split The Rock 'n' Roll Express into two and you end up with nothing."

Blanchard switched on his VCR and settled back. "Have a seat," he offered. "I have something to show you. Me and Gibson just the other night. I call this, 'Tully Mashes Gibson, Part I,' and you'll see why. I think you'll enjoy this, if you like to see blood pouring from a Rock 'n' Rollers face."

The tape showed Gibson taking control of the match early with a series of well-timed aerial maneuvers. Then, suddenly, disaster struck. Gibson soared off the top rope to apply the finishing touches on a fallen Blanchard, but Tully rolled aside. Gibson came down hard onto the mat and the momentum shifted to Blanchard. He

Don't count Tully Blanchard among those who believe that "rock 'n' roll will never die." The National Champion has proudly announced his intentions to disfigure Robert Gibson and silence the fans

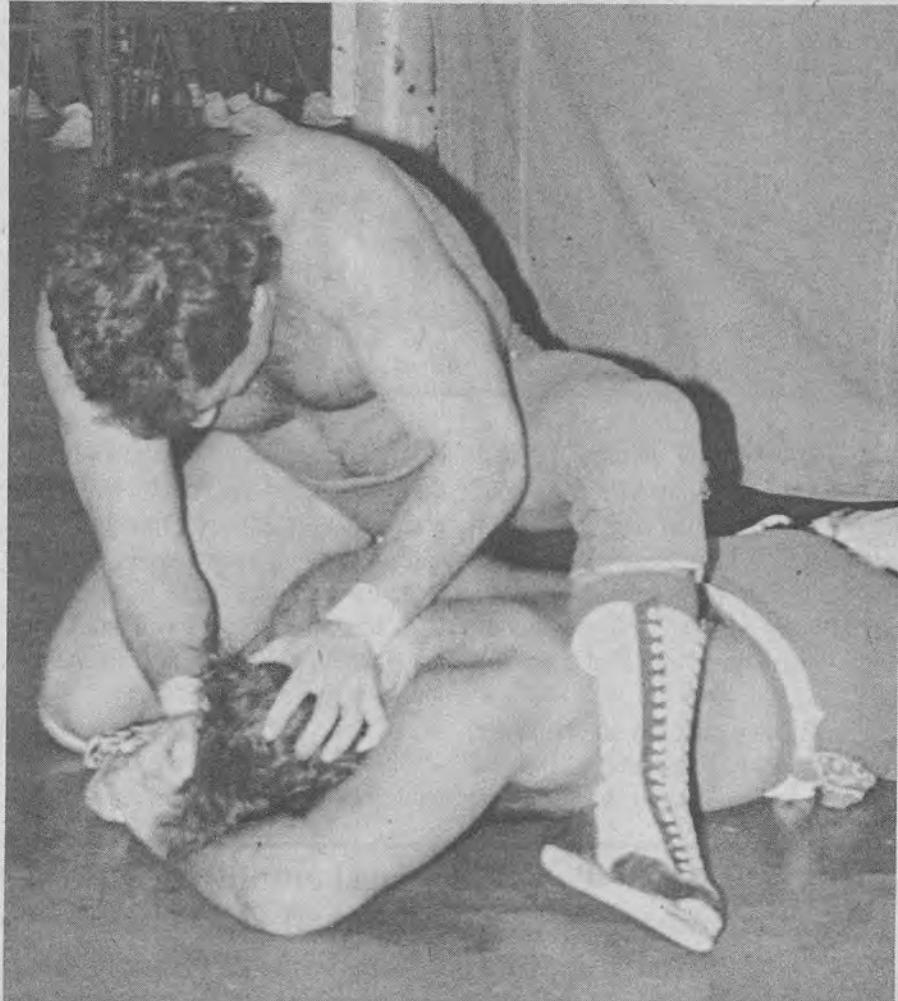


The feud between Blanchard and Gibson is one of violence and spite. Above: Gibson takes the battle to the arena floor. Right: The Rock 'n' Roller's advantage is short-lived, however, as Blanchard grinds Gibson's face into the concrete.

grabbed Gibson by the hair, tossed him head first into the turnbuckle, then flipped his helpless foe over the top rope and down onto the ring apron.

Instead of waiting for Gibson to return, Blanchard went after his hated rival. He smashed Gibson's head into the outer ringpost, opening a five-inch gash on his forehead. Blanchard then did something very uncharacteristic. He walked away, leaving Gibson bloody and helpless on the concrete floor. Why did he do it? Why didn't Blanchard take advantage of Gibson's helpless position? He certainly had his chance, and Blanchard has never lacked the killer instinct.

"I know what you're going to ask me," Blanchard said as he flipped off the television, "and the answer is quite simple. First of all, the crowd wasn't big enough. When I mutilate Gibson, it's gonna be in front of 15,000





Gibson, bloodied and exhausted, attempts a sleeperhold on an equally bloody and exhausted Blanchard. Gibson would love to gain some revenge for the injuries that Tully's cousin—Ric Flair—inflicted on Gibson's partner—Rick Morton.

screaming Rock 'n' Rollers fans, not two or three thousand. Second, the ref had already disqualified me. I want to pin Gibson, then beat his face in."

Blanchard laughed. "Pretty boy, isn't he?" Blanchard asked with more than a touch of derision. "The little girls love him, the little boys love him, the parents love him. Just the kind of guy you want to bring home to mamma, huh? He plays that stupid music and dances into the ring with his fairy godmother Morton and the fans go crazy. I can guarantee one thing, though.

The fans won't cheer when I mangle his face."

The dark-haired Blanchard had an evil look of determination on his face. In his nine-year career, Blanchard has had more than his share of failures, but never for lack of effort. Certainly, there are many people who look down upon his lifestyle, saying that he lives it up too much to be successful. But Blanchard has proven the critics wrong. Now, he has a chance to do it again.

"Gibson again tonight," Blanchard

announced. "Biggest fairy I've ever seen in my entire life. You know, I first met him when he came to the NWA. Somebody introduced us and I knew right away that he'd never make it. I was right."

Right? That's all a matter of opinion, but by virtually any standards, Robert Gibson has made it in the NWA. Combined with Rick Morton, The Rock 'n' Roll Express has quickly become the most popular tag team in the country and as of this writing, were the number two contenders to the NWA World tag team title. Recently, however, Morton has become embroiled in a heated feud with Ric Flair and Gibson has gone out on his own while his partner guns for the NWA World championship.

Gibson originally planned to stay in shape and keep active while Morton went after Flair's title, but make no mistake about his intentions now. He sorely wants to destroy Blanchard. Gibson is known as a hard worker, both inside and out of the ring, and it bothers him that Blanchard has such a blasé attitude toward training. If nothing else, Gibson has proven his ability to get down in the trenches with the National champion and brawl it out.

"That's one thing I wanted to prove," said Gibson. "I know the other night I got into a little trouble outside the ring, but I'm none the worse for wear and I know why. See those doors over there. Those doors lead to the training room and that's the key to my success."

Gibson stood up and walked toward the weight room. "We have a match tonight and I bet I know what Blanchard's doing right now," said Gibson. "He's probably sitting in front of a TV set, fighting off a hangover, with no thoughts at all about wrestling me. I guarantee that I'm right."

Well, right is all a matter of opinion, after all. Television, yes and the hangover is just in the developmental stages. But Robert Gibson has been on Blanchard's mind a lot these days. He has these thoughts of silencing the fans and restructuring Gibson's face. This could get ugly. □

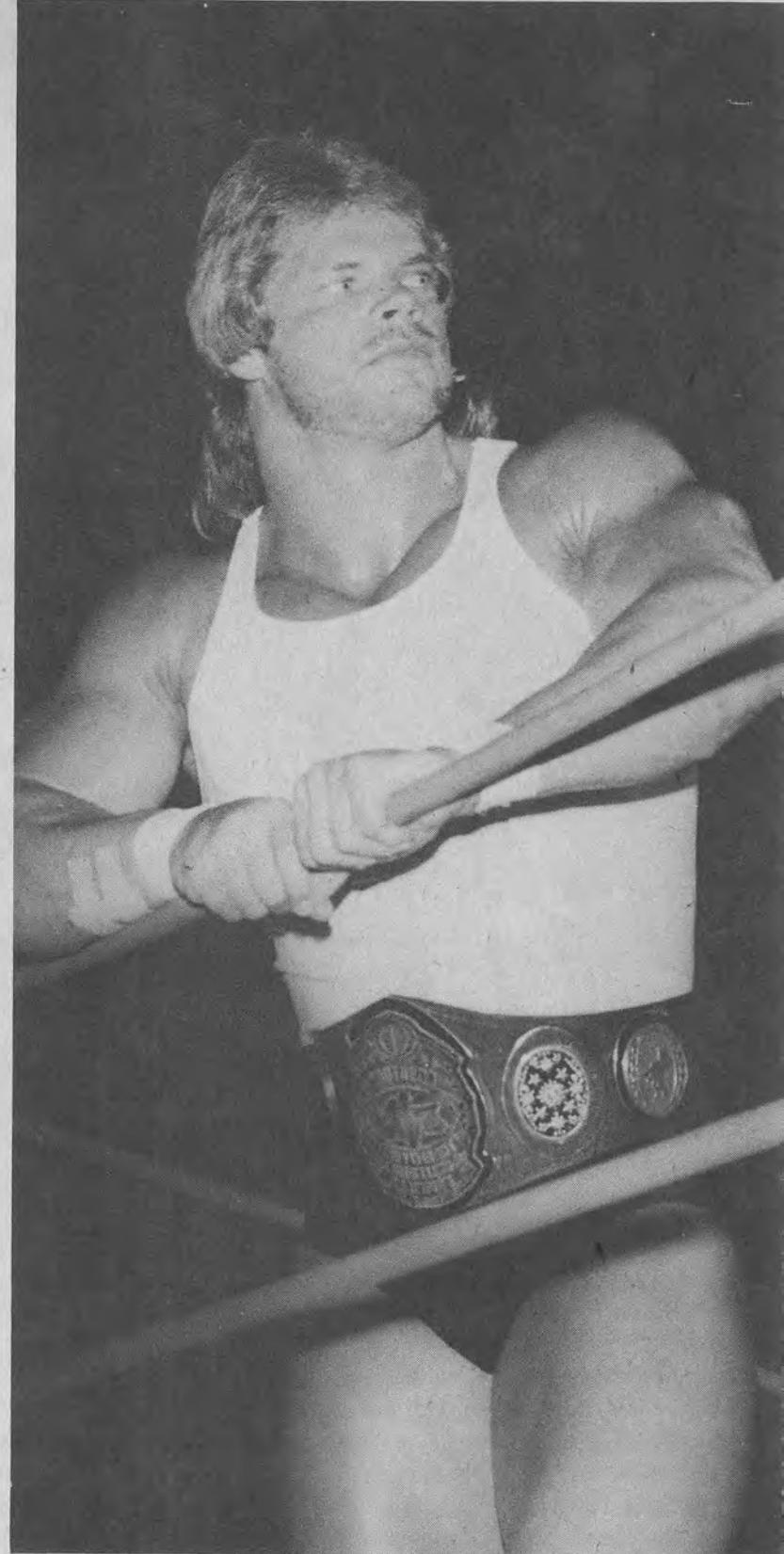
LEX LUGAR BECOMES A FAN FAVORITE...

**AND A
MARKED
MAN!**

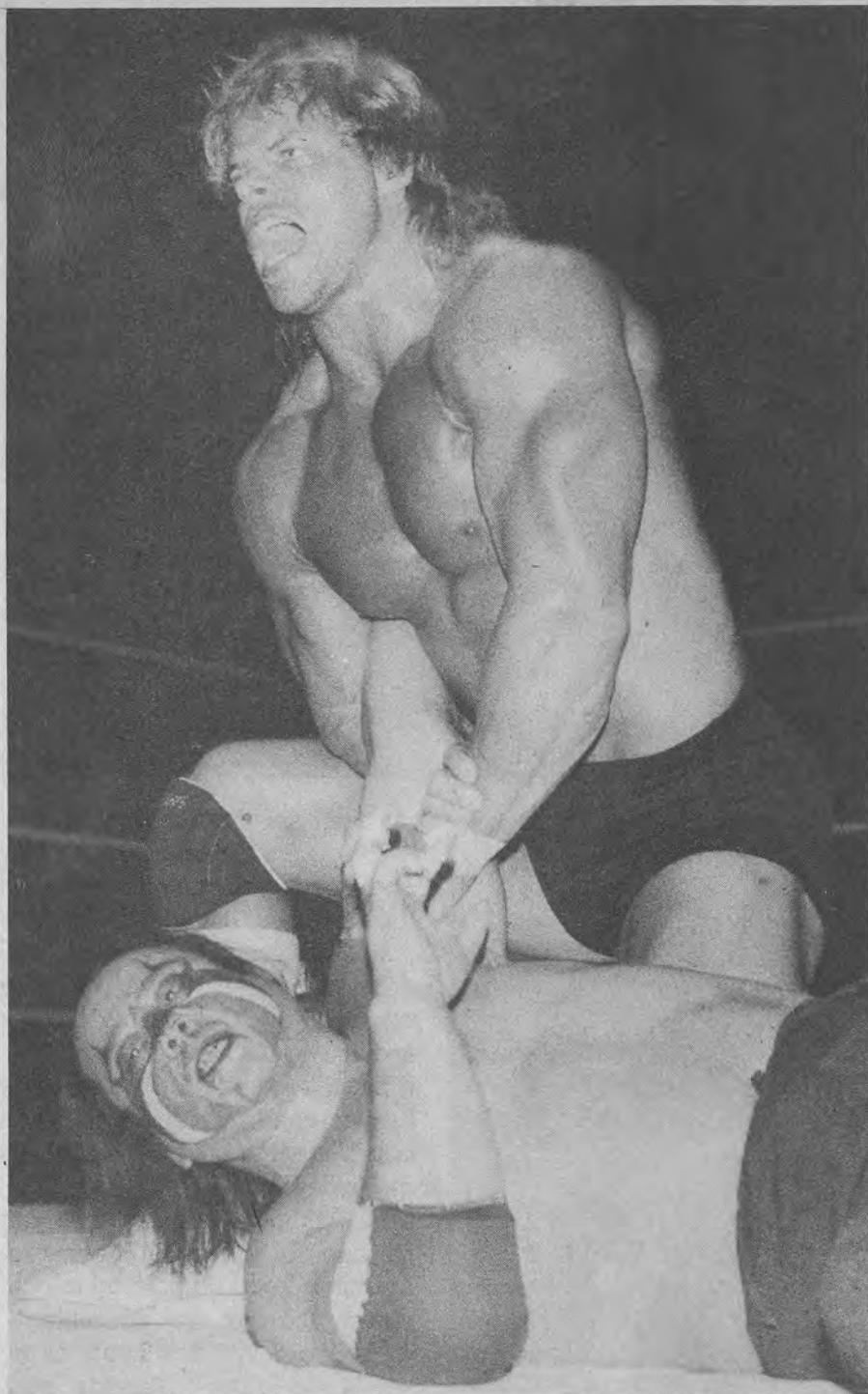
By Matt Brock

PEOPLE BOO MAJESTY as a means of self-preservation. Men whose strength and courage are indomitable tend to diminish our own flesh and blood, making it small and tawdry by comparison. Our only defense is to boo holy hell out of them, boo them in fact right down to our level and hope they stay there.

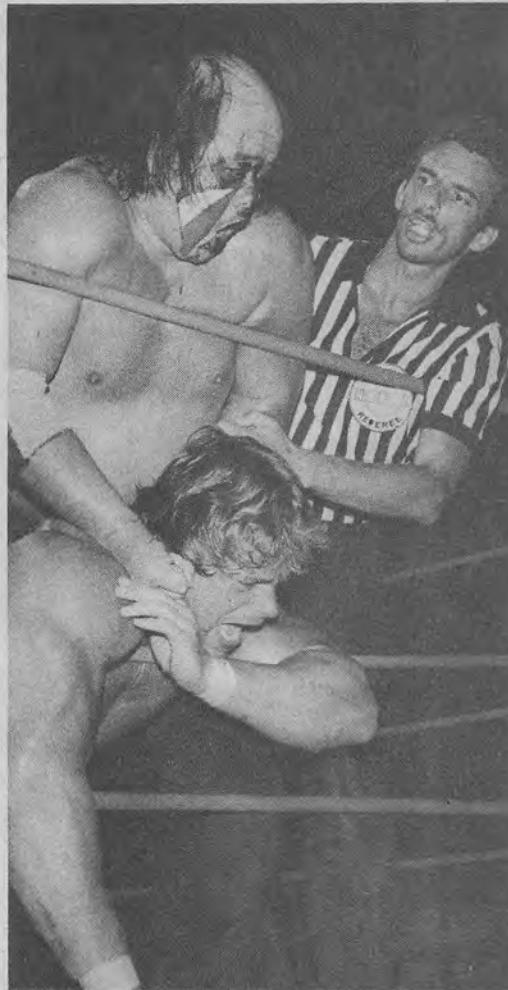
But real majesty refuses to be subjugated. Our boos fall off their shoulders harmlessly, like rain pellets, and they get on with the business of being great, until we little



Will the cheers Lex Lugar has been receiving cause his downfall? Sir Oliver Humperdink thinks so and the mastermind is mobilizing his army to make his prediction come true



Left: Lex Lugar seems to be calling to the fans as he tightens up his armlock on Ken-do Nagasaki. Below: Nagasaki chokes Lugar in the ropes, but referee Bill Alfonso will break the illegal hold.



people can put aside our petty fears and give majesty the ovation it deserves.

And so it is with Lex Lugar. In a sport dominated by premature superlatives, Lugar shone trunk, shoulders, and head above the rest of his brethren. He was hailed as the greatest thing since sliced bread, the most feared competitor since Godzilla—and summarily booed for it.

Yet, if Lugar was a rulebreaker, he was among the most stylish of

that condemned species. Never once did he resort to an object other than his fists, which proved quite sufficient. Lugar was denounced and vilified because of the nature of his opposition; men whom the fans approved of because of their wholesomeness, men like the Windhams and Mike Graham, men who didn't breach their humanity.

But Lugar wasn't bad. Not bad the way Kevin Sullivan or Abdullah the Butcher or even Rick Rude are

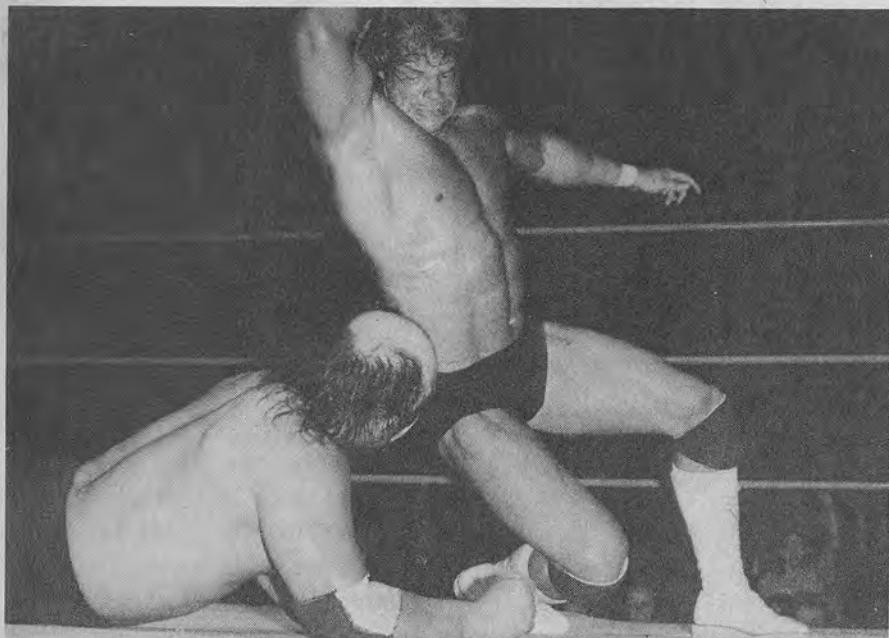
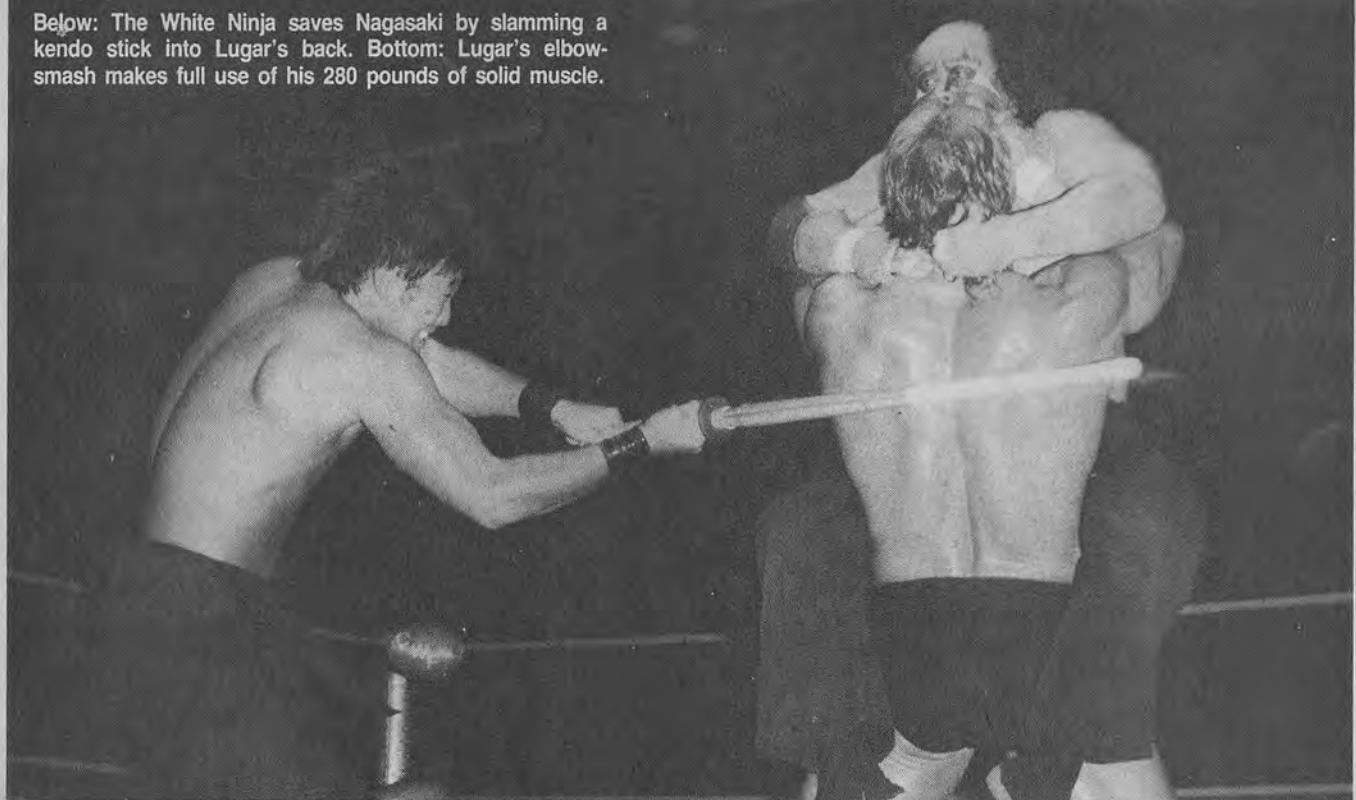
bad. Thus it is a misnomer to say he has turned good. Lugar's wrestling style is unchanged, although his outlook has.

"I'm more relaxed," he said, speaking to me over the phone from his Florida gym. "I'm not as intense outside of the ring as I once was. It's my nature to mistrust people. My primary concern is success, not friendship, but I've allowed my guard down a little. And the fans are responding. I appreciate their support but am in no way dependent on it."

"Hiro Matsuda taught me to rely on nothing except my own instincts. That is how I remain."

The biggest change in Lugar's career has nothing to do with the fans. It has to do with men who, until recently, listed Lugar among

Below: The White Ninja saves Nagasaki by slamming a kendo stick into Lugar's back. **Bottom:** Lugar's elbow-smash makes full use of his 280 pounds of solid muscle.



their own. The Florida rulebreakers are a clannish group, preferring their own company to the exclusion of everyone else. They are feeling the sting of Lugar's "defection" and have issued warnings to their former colleague to rethink his strategy.

"I got a telegram from Oliver Humperdink the other day," Lugar said, "threatening to blow me out of the ring if I didn't come back into the fold."

The fold, managed by Humperdink, includes Kendo Nagasaki and the White Ninja, although Ron Bass is also rumored to belong. "I torched the damn thing and sent Humperdink back the ashes C.O.D.," Lugar continued.

"He will die a painful death," thundered the portly Humperdink, confirming Lugar's words. "No one shows disrespect toward Sir Oliver Humperdink. He will kiss my ring and lick my boots before

my men are through with him."

The image of Lugar kissing anyone's boots is, to say the least, an unlikely one. "I'm not saying there is nothing that can scare me," Lugar deadpanned, "but that thing is certainly not Oliver Humperdink and that pair Oriental geeks."

Lugar's own oriental influence has lessened appreciatively as of late. No longer is Hiro Matsuda his day-to-day manager. That role, along with the office of business manager, is now under the auspices of Bob Roop. According to both parties, the split was amicable.

"I have taught Lex Lugar all he needs to know," Matsuda said, careful to make the point that there are still things that still *does not* know. "I have equipped him with all he needs to become World champion. I am with him in spirit. He knows I am here if he needs further guidance."

"I don't suspect the charge of Oliver Humperdink will cause Lex Lugar any trouble. He has been fashioned for bigger battles than Mr. Humperdink can offer."

"I owe much of what I am to
(Continued on page 55)

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

The reader mailbag: It's time once again to sift through the mail we've received over the past months and address some of your comments.



The Road Warriors

• From Craig Liggeons, Philadelphia: "I have a question regarding the importance of the Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament. If **Magnum T.A.** and **Ron Garvin** had defeated **The Road Warriors** in the final round, would they indeed be ranked as the number one tag team in the world (or even crack the Top 10) despite the fact that they are not a steady team?"

[Had the Warriors been upset in that final round, it is likely that T.A. and Garvin would have received a Top 10 tag team ranking, at least for that month. As it says above the Top 10 and Tag Team ratings, "Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler." A victory in the Crockett Cup tournament over the number one team in the sport not only would have given T.A. and Garvin a Top 10 ranking, but probably would have knocked the Warriors out of the number one spot as well. As we noted in last month's "Ratings Analysis," the editors have been poised to bump **Hawk** and **Animal** down a notch or two. But the Warriors' win in New Orleans, coupled with their recent six-man title victory with **Dusty Rhodes** over **Ivan** and **Nikita Koloff** and **Baron Von Raschke** in Baltimore, have cemented their hold on number one—for now. But the Tag Team ratings are based on U.S. competition for the past month. Hawk and Animal are soon headed to Japan for several weeks, and their inactivity in the States may serve to nudge them from the number one spot. We'll see.]

• From Marvin Hayes, Houston: "I strongly disagree with World Class wrestling's recent decision to declare 'Revolting' **Rick Rude** a world champion. For one thing, he has virtually no competition. Except for the **Von Erichs** and **Bruiser Brody**, the area is full of no-talent bums. **Fritz Von Erich** is retired, **Gino Hernandez** is dead, and **Chris Adams** will never be 100 percent again."

"What adds insult to injury is that the title can change hands on a disqualification, countout, or referee's decision. You know that a referee like **David Manning** or **Rick Hazzard**, both of whom show obvious partiality toward fan favorites, will disqualify Rude at the drop of a hat. And if the match goes to a one-hour time-limit draw, you know the referee will rule in favor of the fan favorite."

"**PWI** is right in not recognizing this title as a world title. With the exception of occasional tours of Massachusetts, Israel, Antarctica,

and the polar ice cap, World Class promotes only in Texas. Even if one of the Von Erichs wins the title, it will be tainted because everybody knows it won't be the *real* world championship."

[The question of world titles is always a difficult one, and the World Class situation only serves to complicate it further. Marvin's letter doesn't pose any questions, but it does reflect the opinion of the vast majority of the mail we've received regarding the World Class area's "world title."] [

• From Donald Cliffman, Atlanta: "Could you give me a complete list of what championships are granted automatic ratings places each month? Also, what happens in the ratings if one of those titles is declared vacant?"

[Okay, here goes (all champs rated first unless otherwise noted): NWA—U.S. champion (first), National champion (second); AWA—Americas champion; WWF—Intercontinental champion; World Class—World Class champion (first), Texas champion (second); UWF—UWF champion; Florida—Southern champion (first), Florida champion (second); Mid-Southern—Mid-Southern champion; Continental—Southeast Continental champion; Pacific Northwest—Pacific Northwest champion.

[If one of those titles happens to be vacant and a tournament is pending, then we will generally rate the number one contender favored to capture that title in the allotted position.]



Tully Blanchard

• From James C. Everest, Oklahoma City: "You made a mistake on your ratings. You put that **Tully Blanchard** was 275 pounds and from Moscow, Russia."

[Yes, we did make a mistake, and it appeared in several of our publications. Which is not to say that we thought Tully was from the same town as **Nikita Koloff**! A typesetting error with our computer system was the cause of that mistake, and, unfortunately, with the number of names in our ratings, these kinds of things will crop up from time to time. Sorry 'bout that!] □

The address for mail: What is it now? Did we accidentally make **George Steele** NWA champion? Is **Tully Adonis** the number one Most Hated man in the sport? Is the combined weight of **The Road Warriors** 56 pounds? Whether you do or don't take us to task for typographical errors, we want to hear what you have to say about our ratings. Send your letters to: "Ratings Analysis" c/o Sports Review Wrestling, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

OFF WRESTLIN'

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board.



Randy Savage

TOP 10

- 1—RIC FLAIR
NWA World champion
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—HULK HOGAN
WWF World champion
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—STAN HANSEN
AWA World champion
322, Borger, TX
- 4—RANDY SAVAGE
Intercontinental champion
245, Sarasota, FL
- 5—MAGNUM T.A.
No. 1 contender: U.S. title
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 6—DUSTY RHODES
No. 1 contender: National title
302, Austin, TX
- 7—BRUISER BRODY
No. 1 contender: World Class title
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 8—TERRY GORDY
UWF champion
289, Chattanooga, TN
- 9—RICK RUDE
World Class champion
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 10—LEX LUGAR
Southern champion
280, Chicago, IL

TAG TEAMS

- 1—THE ROAD WARRIORS
No. 1 contenders to NWA World tag team title
Combined weight: 567 pounds
- 2—THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 472 pounds
- 3—THE BRITISH BULLDOGS
WWF World tag team champions
Combined weight: 461 pounds
- 4—THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title
Combined weight: 453 pounds
- 5—THE FANTASTICS
UWF tag team champions
Combined weight: 462 pounds
- 6—BRETT HART & JIM NEIDHART
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
Combined weight: 515 pounds
- 7—THE FABULOUS FREEBIRDS
No. 1 contenders to UWF tag team title
Combined weight: 791 pounds
- 8—PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE & DOUG SOMERS
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 515 pounds
- 9—THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS
No. 1 contenders to AWA tag team title
Combined weight: 461 pounds
- 10—GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE
No. 2 contenders to WWF tag team title
Combined weight: 511 pounds

NWA, AWA, and WWF ratings, in addition to the regional ratings from around the country, are based on the official current position of challengers to the top title in each category. (Certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings). Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and mail that comes to our offices.

NWA

World Champion:

RIC FLAIR

243, Minneapolis, MN

1—**MAGNUM T.A.**

245, Chesapeake, VA

2—**TULLY BLANCHARD**

235, San Antonio, TX

3—**RICK MORTON**

228, Memphis, TN

4—**NIKITA KOLOFF**

275, Moscow, Russia

5—**DUSTY RHODES**

302, Austin, TX

6—**BARRY WINDHAM**

236, Sweetwater, TX

7—**RONNIE GARVIN**

231, Montreal, Quebec

8—**LEX LUGAR**

280, Chicago, IL

9—**BRUISER BRODY**

284, Albuquerque, NM

10—**THE BULLET**

234, parts unknown

AWA

World Champion:

STAN HANSEN

322, Borger, TX

1—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**

310, Paris Island, SC

2—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**

248, Pittsburgh, PA

3—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**

245, Beverly Hills, CA

4—**BRUISER BRODY**

284, Albuquerque, NM

5—**SCOTT HALL**

290, Minneapolis, MN

6—**NORD THE BARBARIAN**

316, Bozeman, MT

7—**RICK MARTEL**

236, Quebec City, Quebec

8—**JIMMY SNUKA**

251, Fiji Islands

9—**COL. DeBEERS**

248, Cape Town, South Africa

10—**BRAD RHEINGANS**

248, Appleton, MN

WWF

World Champion:

HULK HOGAN

302, Venice Beach, CA

1—**RANDY SAVAGE**

245, Sarasota, FL

2—**RICK STEAMBOAT**

238, Honolulu, HI

3—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**

274, Sunset Beach, HI

4—**JAKE ROBERTS**

246, Stone Mountain, GA

5—**ADRIAN ADONIS**

303, New York, NY

6—**ITO SANTANA**

245, Mission, TX

7—**JUNKYARD DOG**

260, New Orleans, LA

8—**JOHN STUDD**

364, Washington, DC

9—**KING KONG BUNDY**

446, Atlantic City, NJ

10—**TERRY FUNK**

247, Amarillo, TX

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

1—**MAGNUM T.A.**

245, Chesapeake, VA

2—**TULLY BLANCHARD**

235, San Antonio, TX

3—**DUSTY RHODES**

302, Austin, TX

4—**NIKITA KOLOFF**

275, Moscow, Russia

5—**JIM GARVIN**

235, Tampa, FL

6—**RONNIE GARVIN**

231, Montreal, Quebec

7—**SHASKA WHATLEY**

238, El Paso, TX

8—**JIMMY VALIANT**

251, New York, NY

9—**MANNY FERNANDEZ**

245, El Paso, TX

10—**WAHOO McDANIEL**

280, Midland, TX

CHAL GRATINGS

WORLD CLASS

- 1—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 2—BRIAN ADIDAS
238, Denton, TX
- 3—BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 4—STEVE SIMPSON
230, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 5—KEVIN VON ERICH
239, Denton, TX
- 6—CHRIS ADAMS
230, Stratford, England
- 7—LANCE VON ERICH
260, Dallas, TX
- 8—BLACKJACK MULLIGAN
310, Sweetwater, TX
- 9—KILLER BROOKS
261, Waxahachie, Texas
- 10—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan

UWF

- 1—TERRY GORDY
289, Chattanooga, TN
- 2—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY
- 3—TERRY TAYLOR
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 4—MICHAEL HAYES
255, Marietta, GA
- 5—BUZZ SAWYER
240, St. Petersburg, FL
- 6—TED DIBIASE
247, Omaha, NB
- 7—KORTSIA KORCHENKO
286, Russia
- 8—STEVE WILLIAMS
265, Tulsa, OK
- 9—RICK STEINER
248, Detroit, MI
- 10—ONE MAN GANG
468, Chicago, IL

FLORIDA

- 1—LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL
- 2—THE WHITE NINJA
231, Japan
- 3—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 4—KENDO NAGASAKI
248, Singapore
- 5—RON BASS
265, Pampa, TX
- 6—BOB ROOP
273, Tampa, FL
- 7—KENDALL WINDHAM
220, Sweetwater, TX
- 8—THE CUBAN ASSASSIN
236, Cuba
- 9—TYREE PRIDE
231, Haiti
- 10—JERREY GREY
241, Tampa, FL

MID-SOUTHERN

- 1—BILL DUNDEE
214, Melbourne, Australia
- 2—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN
- 3—BUDDY LANDELL
236, Los Angeles, CA
- 4—DUTCH MANTEL
242, Bucksnorth, TN
- 5—JOS LeDUC
280, Godbout, Quebec
- 6—RIP ROGERS
238, Atlanta, GA
- 7—HILLBILLY ELMER
406, Philadelphia, MS
- 8—BILLY TRAVIS
225, Lexington, KY
- 9—PAUL DIAMOND
230, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 10—ABDUL KHADAFY
265, Libya

CONTINENTAL

- 1—WENDELL COOLEY
238, Memphis, TN
- 2—JERRY STUBBS
235, Pensacola, FL
- 3—EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET
227, South Wales
- 4—BRAD ARMSTRONG
226, Marietta, GA
- 5—THE BULLET
234, parts unknown
- 6—MR. WRESTLING II
247, Atlanta, GA
- 7—TOMMY RICH
232, Hendersonville, TN
- 8—TOM PRITCHARD
220, Houston, TX
- 9—ROBERT FULLER
238, Dyresburg, TN
- 10—TIM HORNER
235, Morristown, TN

NORTHWEST

- 1—RIP OLIVER
245, Tampa, FL
- 2—BOBBY JAGGERS
265, Durlap, KS
- 3—BRADY BOONE
236, Charlotte, NC
- 4—COCOA SAMOA
239, Samoa
- 5—MIKE MILLER
260, Memphis, TN
- 6—NICK KINISKI
241, Vancouver, BC
- 7—MOONDOG MORETTI
245, Boise, ID
- 8—SHEIK ABUGHADIDIEN
242, parts unknown
- 9—THE ASSASSIN
249, parts unknown
- 10—SCOTT DORING
255, Minneapolis, MN

MOST POPULAR

- 1—HULK HOGAN
302, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—RICK MORTON
228, Memphis, TN
- 3—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
- 4—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
- 5—MAGNUM T.A.
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 6—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
- 7—BARRY WINDHAM
236, Sweetwater, TX
- 8—HACKSAW DUGGAN
280, Glens Falls, NY
- 9—LEX LUGAR
280, Chicago, IL
- 10—BUDDY LANDELL
236, Los Angeles, CA

MOST HATED

- 1—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
- 3—NIKITA KOLOFF
276, Moscow, Russia
- 4—JAKE ROBERTS
246, Stone Mountain, GA
- 5—STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX
- 6—RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 7—JIM GARVIN
235, Tampa, FL
- 8—ADRIAN ADONIS
303, New York, NY
- 9—TERRY GORDY
289, Chattanooga, TN
- 10—KING KONG BUNDY
446, Atlantic City, NJ

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| Shoulder | 30.86 lbs. | 17.0 lbs. |
| Legs | 57.78 lbs. | 24.6 lbs. |
| TOTALS | 135.05 lbs. | |
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| Increases in inches | | |

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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 6)

Rude could have been disqualified at one point in the match when Percy Pringle interfered, but it wouldn't have been his fault. As for Brody, he obviously became frustrated by his inability to pin Rude and knew that the only way he would win was if the champion got himself disqualified. Rude wasn't going to let that happen and it made for an incredible match.

ED McGOVERN
Oyster Bay, NY

GIMME MORE WOMEN!

I have been a wrestling fan for over 20 years and I'd like to know why your magazines don't publish more stories about the lady wrestlers.

Today I bought two wrestling magazines and there was not one story about the ladies. In my opinion, there should be more stories and pictures on the beautiful, talented women. I don't know if anyone else agrees with me, but I think there should be at least one story on the ladies in every issue.

Also, in the ratings, you never rate the ladies. How do we know who they are, how they are doing, or who hates whom? Thank you so much for reading this letter. Keep up the good work, but please, more women.

JOHNNY LACIK
Grand Prairie, TX

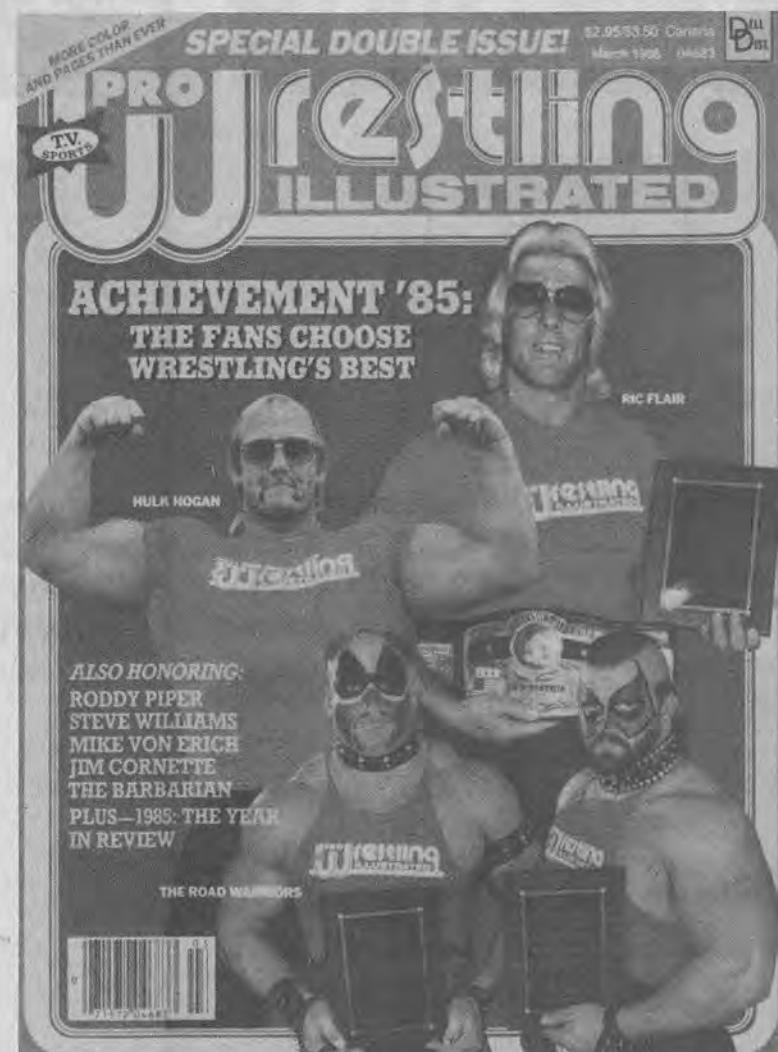
STILL GREAT

The interview with Nick Bockwinkel in the July 1986 edition of *Sports Review Wrestling* supports a view that I have held all along. Nick Bockwinkel is not only a superb wrestler, perhaps the greatest of all time, but also a confident man who leads his own life and isn't swayed by other people's views. Bockwinkel hasn't changed since the Zbyszko incident, as you suggest. He just has different friends.

Bockwinkel is a clear example of a man getting better as he gets older. Instead of deteriorating, Bockwinkel has remained in incredible shape and continues to improve his skills. I feel sorry for Larry Zbyszko because he was obviously dealing with the wrong man.

(Continued on page 49)

A SECOND CHANCE TO CATCH “THE BIG ONE”



The year-end issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* is always the most anticipated wrestling magazine of the year. And the 1985 year-end issue (March 1986 cover date) was the best one we ever published. At 92 pages, it was our biggest magazine ever and, in addition to the year-end features *PWI* readers have come to expect, it contained eight full-color pages. We have limited supplies of this newsstand sell-out, so don't be disappointed twice.

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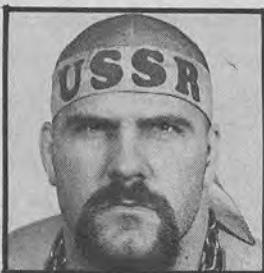
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THIS MONTH IN...



It's an unhappy birthday for America as **NIKITA KOLOFF** takes aim at **MAGNUM T.A., THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS, THE ROAD WARRIORS,** and **DUSTY RHODES**



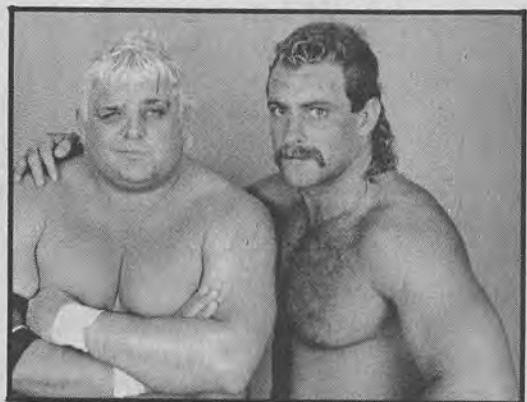
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ANDRE THE GIANT’S career is at the crossroads, and it may not be long before **HULK HOGAN** feels his rage

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CHRIS ADAMS’ shortsighted comeback may ruin his life . . . Learn why losing the AWA tag team title was the best thing for **SCOTT HALL** . . . **BARRY WINDHAM** is interviewed on “The Hotseat” . . . **DARK JOURNEY** and **LADY MAXINE** go at it “One on One”

All this and much more . . . in the September 1986 issue of *Inside Wrestling*
ON SALE NOW!

MAILBAG

(Continued from page 47)

Nick is right when he says that if he retired tomorrow, he would be remembered as one of the great champions of the sport. His record speaks for itself, and when he captures his fourth AWA title from Stan Hansen, it'll speak even louder.

The only bad thing to come out of this is that now I have to share my adoration of Nick with the fans. Bockwinkel's new status as a fan favorite is unfortunate, because the fans have a way of softening a man and ruining his career. But I believe that Nick Bockwinkel has overcome greater obstacles before and will overcome more.

NEIL FIDELMAN
Little Rock, AK

DARK CLOUD OVER SUNSHINE

An open letter to Sunshine:

Sunshine, we were recently watching a World Class program and we were very disappointed in you! First of all, you had your hands all over The Fantastics, whom you were accompanying at ringside. Come on, Sunshine! Make up your mind! Who is it that you want, Scott Casey, Bobby Fulton, or Tommy Rogers?

We once had a lot of respect for you, but we've grown so sick and tired of you saying that you're going to drag Missy through the mud. Well, we hope that Missy drags *your* bleached blonde hair through the mud!

Don't get us wrong, Sunshine. We don't like Missy either, but at least she stays with her man. She had no right slapping one of our favorites, Chris Adams, at the Parade Of Champions.

Sunshine, it seems that the only good thing you've done in the past few months is take The Missing Link under your wing. We do agree with you on that!

Just get back to being the old Sunshine and clean up the World Class area. But please, quit feuding with Missy. She'll get what's coming to her in good time!

NICKI ANSTACI

Bogart, GA

(Continued on page 50)

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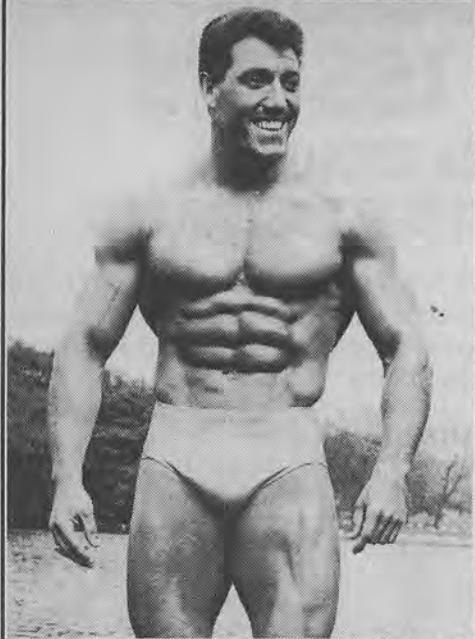
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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 49)



THE BEST OF THE BEST

I'd just like to congratulate you on your fantastic feature on the best matches of the 1980s in the July 1986 edition of *Sports Review Wrestling* ("Halftime—The Greatest Matches Of The '80s!").

Each page brought back memories and made me realize how quickly things can change. I had almost forgotten that Andre the Giant wrestled Hulk Hogan and Dusty met Bob Backlund back in 1980. These are the matchups the fans really want. I don't think anybody cares whether a rule-breaker wrestles a fan favorite. All we really want is the best wrestlers going at it.

I guess all we can hope for is that the next five years of this decade turn out as good as the first five. All I can say is that we wrestling fans really have it easy. I'm proud to say that I'm a fan of wrestling and not some other fink sport.

CHARLES CLARK
Indianapolis, IN □

Bob Backlund scores a takedown against Dusty Rhodes during their 1980 match. Charles Clark appreciated our photographic review of the first half of the 1980s.



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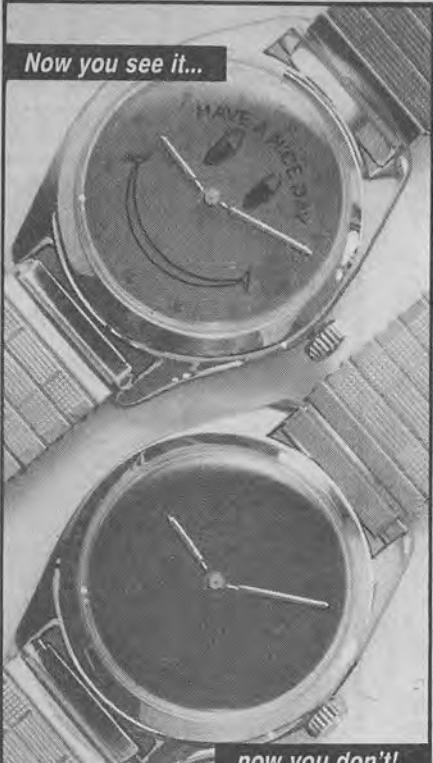
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WE ACCUSE

(Continued from page 10)



Compare and contrast these two tag team photos. Above: Jimmy Jack Funk and Dory Funk Jr., circa 1986. Below: Jesse Barr and Dory Funk Jr., circa 1985. Dory says that Jimmy Jack has been locked in a bunkhouse for years; has he so quickly forgotten his partner's stellar career in the Florida area?



the WWF's announcing crew have gone along with this entire story. Sportscasters are journalists and journalists have a responsibility to the truth. If the truth isn't served, then a journalist hasn't done his job. Of course, McMahon is the head of the WWF, so one wouldn't expect him to tell the truth, but what's Monsoon's excuse? And Okerlund's? Have they no moral values, or are they simply puppets?

One has to wonder why all this was necessary. Jesse Barr is a fine wrestler with a solid record and his addition to the WWF roster would have been welcomed by the fans. It was Barr who said, back in September, 1985, "I am one of, if not the greatest wrestler in the history of the state of Florida."

But former Associate Editor Joe Bua's words were most prophetic. In

the February 1985 edition of *Inside Wrestling* ("How Jesse Barr Traded Self-Respect For The Florida Title"), Bua asked, "What's wrong with just being Jesse Barr, who was a great amateur champion, who could have gone to the 1980 Olympics if the U.S. didn't boycott the games?" Bua was referring to Barr's apparent sellout to Dory Funk and his refusal to be his own man. Sounds familiar.

Perhaps it's an identity crisis. Maybe Jesse Barr doesn't have enough confidence in his own ability and needs to hide behind the guise of a fraudulent name. Still, there's no excuse. The WWF lied, McMahon lied, Barr lied, and the Funk brothers lied. The fans caught them.

Our sport is based on truth and integrity and these men have broken the rules. □

BACK ISSUES OF



July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: The Sheik, Bruno Sammartino, Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: Koff and Smirnoff, Bruno vs. Zbyszko, Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

June 1982/COLOR PINUP: Nick Bockwinkel, Adonis & Ventura, Snuka, Patera, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR PINUP: Dino Bravo, Steamboat & Rich, Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

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February 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Putski, Rhodes vs. Garvin, Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.



APRIL 1983

April 1983/COLOR PINUP: Superstar Graham, Mil Mascaras, Valentine, Ornordoff, Hart.

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August 1984/COLOR PINUP: Stan Hansen, Jerry Lawler, Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

October 1984/COLOR PINUP: Billy Jack, Kerry Von Erich, Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel, Sgt. Slaughter, Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

December 1984/COLOR PINUP: Kerry Von Erich, Barry Windham, Rich, Martel, McDaniel, WWF-NWA TV war.

January 1985/COLOR PINUP: Tito Santana, Road Warriors, Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

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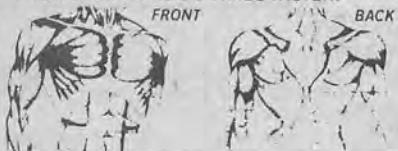
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BRITISH BULLDOGS

(Continued from page 36)

Hart and Neidhart, Valentine and Beefcake, are well-trained in the seamy side of wrestling and will resort to any tactic. The question is, will the Bulldogs be able to fight off this challenge?

If not, then the WWF tag team Champs are, indeed, living on the edge of disaster.

Oh, the saddest of sights in a world of sin

Is a little lost pup with his tail tucked in

—Arthur Guiterman

Or maybe, Mr. Guiterman, the most impressive duo of scientific wrestlers in the country getting outbrawled, outcheated, and



Following a blow to the head, Neidhart wonders what hit him. "The Anvil" didn't see it, but it was Dynamite Kid's elbow smash.

outricked for their title. For now, Davey Boy Smith and the Dynamite Kid seem to have a pretty strong hold on their belts. But it could be only a matter of time. Talented, they are. Versatile, they're not.

Professional wrestling is certainly a world of sin, and in this case, the fans would play the part of the proverbial little lost pup if the Bulldogs lost their belts to a member of the WWF's evil empire. □

LEX LUGAR

(Continued from page 42)

Hiro Matsuda," Lugar said reverently. "He has made me not only a better wrestler, but a better person. He has made me unbeatable. My sights are now firmly on Ric Flair. I will settle for nothing less than the World championship."



No longer trained by Hiro Matsuda, Lugar has taken on Bob Roop as his full-time adviser, strategist, and business manager.

And about Humperdink's vow to end his career?

"Don't make me laugh," he laughed. "Humperdink can do nothing to me. He is nothing but a stupid grunt, shuffling his feet in a sea of mediocrity. I am Lex Lugar. I am beyond his criticism. I cannot be beaten."

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INQUIRING REPORTER

(Continued from page 12)



Jesse Ventura is as colorful an announcer as he is a dresser. His knowledge of the sport is excellent, and he tends to compliment or criticize rulebreakers and fan favorites alike.

wrestling announcer with a sense of humor. Even when a match is dragging, he always seems to come up with an interesting comment. He puts Gorilla Monsoon and Vince McMahon Jr. in line. Those two are my least favorite, by the way. Monsoon is always lying to the fans and McMahon has no idea what's going on. You'd think that after all these years in wrestling, Vince would have some knowledge of the sport."

Harvey Weinstein, Brooklyn, NY: "I really can't take Gorilla Monsoon any more. He constantly repeats the same old tired cliches over and over. I mean, how many times can you listen to, 'Well, that'll give you a negative attitude'? He must say that phrase at least five times during every show he's on. Also, I find it annoying that he always claims that there's 'a capacity crowd' at the arena. Half the time, his 'capacity crowd' is made up of empty seats.



While he is one of the most visible announcers in wrestling, Gorilla Monsoon is acknowledged as one of the most boring and tedious. His verbal repertoire is filled to bursting with cliches—literally.

And his constant favoritism toward so-called scientific wrestlers has become tedious and boring to listen to."

Jane Purnell, Dallas, TX: "I'm not too crazy about David Crockett, although I have to give him credit for standing up to Nikita Koloff. I was absolutely shocked when Crockett told Nikita that he looked like he was getting a little soft around the middle and might be taking it easy. That took guts. Still, it doesn't make up for all of his other bad points. First of all, I can't understand a word he says. Crockett sounds like he has marbles in his mouth. If this wasn't bad enough, I have to turn down the sound everytime he's on TV. He must think that he has to yell for us to hear him. And worst of all, the guy's a mouth-piece for his brother Jim. At this point, I just turn off the sound whenever I watch *World Championship Wrestling*."

Andrea Robbins, Shaker Heights, OH: "My favorite announcer is Bill Apter. I know he only does the 'Pro Wrestling Illustrated Scouting Report' segment on WTBS' *World Championship Wrestling*, but it's my favorite thing on



Bill Apter interviews Jerry "The King" Lawler on a segment of "Pro Wrestling Illustrated Scouting Reports" aired weekly on SuperStation WTBS.

all of television. Bill's interviewing style is very incisive, and he never lets the wrestlers get away with any funny business. Also, I find Bill himself to be the perfect host. He has style and intelligence. A lot of my friends say he's nothing but an obnoxious windbag, but I think he's the biggest thing on television. And he's sexy, too!" □

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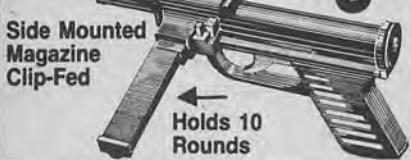
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TATTER

(Continued from page 8)



NIKITA KOLOFF

dent Bob Geigel.

Ivan Koloff stated months ago that his nephew Nikita would not wrestle Magnum T.A. for the U.S. title unless the match was televised. "We want the chance to embarrass the dirty American on television before all his stupid fans," said Ivan. "Then all of the Americans will know of the superiority of the Russian people."

Finally, after months of talk, that long awaited television match appeared to have reached fruition when the WCW held a press conference to announce the signing of a contract between T.A. and Nikita. But during the conference, the Koloffs verbally abused T.A.'s mother, who had accompanied her son. Naturally, Magnum came to his mother's defense, but Nikita snuck behind T.A. and knocked him out. As a result, the announcement was never made.

The following day, an angry Geigel summoned T.A. to the NWA main office in Kansas City and reprimanded the U.S. Champion for his behavior. Magnum explained to Geigel that the Russians had insulted his mother and that he was merely coming to her defense.

Geigel, however, did not accept

this excuse and warned Magnum that he would have to pay the consequences for any further actions of this type. An enraged Magnum then attacked Geigel, who subsequently stripped him of his title.

"Ivan and Nikita Koloff might not look intelligent, but they're brilliant men," said promoter Jim Crockett. "They're well trained in psychological warfare and I believe that in this instance they got the best of Magnum. He never used to act like this."

Naturally, now that Magnum has been stripped of the U.S. title, the television match will not occur. However, the WCW has announced a best of seven series between Nikita and Magnum for the U.S. belt.

This figures to be an epic battle, a series of global significance to professional wrestling. Of course, it also opens up the possibility of the U.S. championship falling into the hands of a Russian and then, Magnum T.A.'s greatest nightmare would become reality.

—Buddy Ford

TULSA, OK: Dark Journey has finally unveiled her secret weapon. She officially introduced the

(Continued on page 60)

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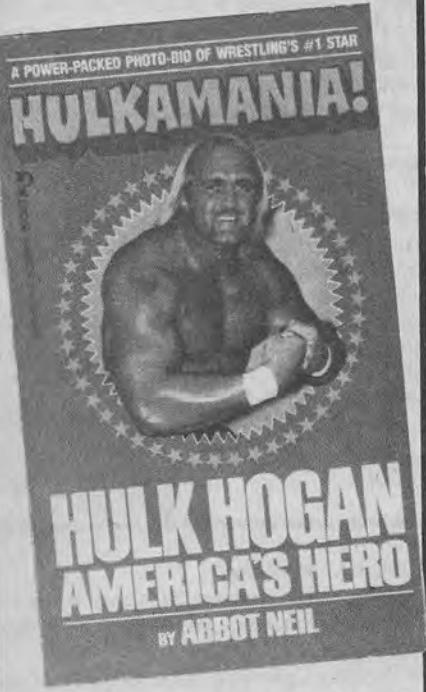
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TATTERL

(Continued from page 58)



THE MISSING LINK

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"After months of scouting and weeding out dozens of wrestlers, I have decided to take the Missing Link under my wing," Dark Journey told us. "He has the combination of wrestling ability and animal instinct that I've been looking for. Now, it should be only a matter of time before Maxine and Victory are out of the area."

Dark Journey has been on her own ever since parting with Dick Slater after Slater lost the UWF belt. Journey was angry at Slater for signing a blank contract and, after a bizarre series of events, virtually giving away his title. Shortly afterward, she

declared her intentions to manage Victory but Lady Maxine took exception to this and a brawl ensued involving Journey, Maxine, and Victory.

"I vowed at that point to get Maxine and Victory for what happened," said Dark Journey. "Victory refused my services, which no man does, and Maxine tried to get in the way of what I wanted. No woman does that. The Missing Link is totally devoted to my cause."

"This doesn't surprise me at all," said Lady Maxine. "They both have a few links missing. Nothing has changed. If that's the best she could come up with, and the best he could come up with, then they deserve each other."

—Randy Swift □

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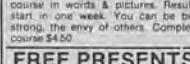
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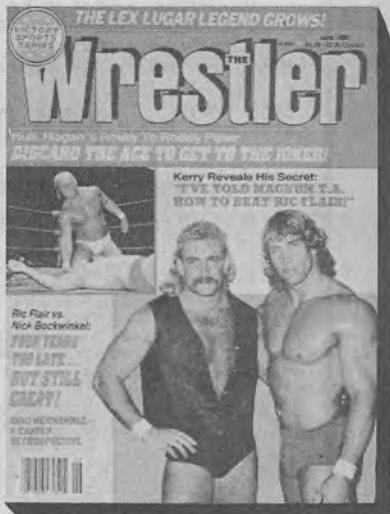
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UWF TOURNAMENT

(Continued from page 62)



The first-ever UWF heavyweight champion Terry Gordy celebrates his tournament victory with Freebird brothers Michael Hayes and Buddy Roberts.

Quarterfinals: Dark Journey played a key role in the first quarterfinal round match between Kamala and Jack Victory. Journey, of course, is no fan of Victory's and has vowed revenge against both Victory and Lady Maxine. Victory, obviously distracted, never got untracked and Kamala scored the pin at 3:43.

This wasn't a tag team tournament, but The Freebirds showed why they're one of the most successful teams around. Michael Hayes was at ringside for Terry Gordy's match with Ted DiBiase and had a tremendous influence in the outcome. With over eight minutes gone, Hayes distracted DiBiase, who tried to go after Hayes. Gordy caught DiBiase in a clothesline and pinned him at 8:30.

Because of the first round disqualification and draw, Hacksaw Duggan and Steve Williams drew a bye and advanced to the semifinals.

Semifinals: DiBiase was still in the ring when Akbar and Kamala entered for their semifinal match with Hacksaw Duggan. Akbar grabbed the microphone, told DiBiase that he "looks like a washed up wrestler and never looked that way when he was with Devastation, Inc," and offered him \$25,000 to rejoin Devastation. DiBiase said that he would join for \$50,000 and Akbar agreed.

The two looked like old friends at ringside during the match and Akbar gave DiBiase a loaded glove to help Kamala in case he got into trouble. With about three minutes gone, Kamala and Duggan collided and DiBiase ran into the ring. DiBiase looked at both wrestlers, but instead of hitting Duggan, as Akbar had hoped,

he slugged Kamala. Pandemonium broke loose as Duggan pinned Kamala to advance to the finals.

Terry Gordy advanced at 5:06 when the referee decided that Williams was unable to continue. Gordy used the brass knuckles to open up a wound on Dr. Death's head while Michael Hayes once again interfered on the ring apron.

Finals: The number one and two seeds, Hacksaw Duggan and Terry Gordy, respectively, were supposed to battle it out for the first UWF title and \$100,000, but once again, a third party played the most important role.

Prior to the start of the match, One Man Gang came to the ring and said that the tournament shouldn't have been held because he was better than both Duggan and Gordy. OMG also claimed that there was a conspiracy to keep him out of the tournament. Duggan then challenged OMG and both wrestlers went at it. Meanwhile, Hayes smartly held back Gordy, realizing that Duggan was getting worn out. OMG then smashed Duggan over the head with a chair, and opened up a deep gash.

It looked as if Duggan would have to forfeit the final, but Mid-South official Joel Watts decided that Duggan would be allowed five minutes rest. If he was unable to continue after that, Gordy would be awarded the belt. After the five-minute rest period, Duggan courageously came back to the ring but it was obvious that the altercation with OMG had taken its toll. Helpless and unable to mount an offensive, Duggan was pinned at 5:58 and Terry Gordy became the UWF champion. □

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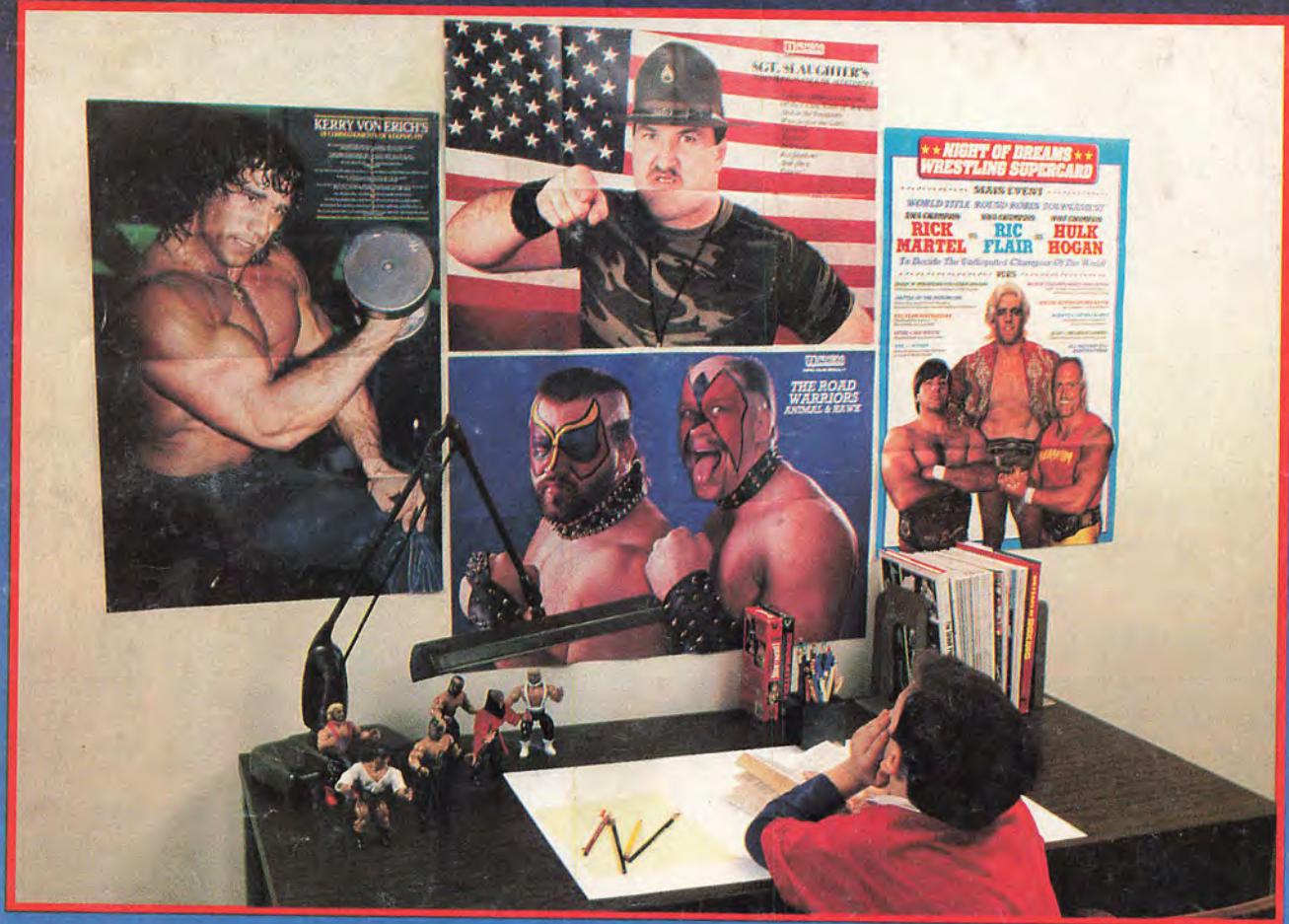
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